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Credits

Editors: R. Ayana, L. McGiffen, J. Elf
Writers: Nissa, R. Ayana, Lee McGiffen,
 Brian Spears, Peter Krygsman, Joanna Macy,
 Dean Winter, John Burke, Susan O'Neill
Research: Lee McGiffen, Peter Krygsman, G.
 Nimn, M'Bob, R. Ayana, Brian
 Spears, H. Quinn, H. Nortman, N. Duff
Cover: Brian Hill
Graphics: Saira, Isabo, Wulfgar, John Burke,
 Morle Scrawl, Fadi, Jon Evans, Sue Leonard
Comix: Simon Wulfgar, Isabo, Gorbo Chev,
 R. Ayana
Layout: J. Elf, R. Ayana
Computers: M'Bob, R. Ayana, Jon Evans
Darkroom: Paul Kohn
Typesetting: R. Ayana
Production: J. Elf, M'bob, R. Ayana
 Thanx also to David Hodges, the Worldpeace
 Initiative and Kindred Spirits Quarterly.



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US Elections Rigged

The computer program used to count over one-third of votes cast in the last US Presidential election is vulnerable to manipulation and fraud.

According to expert court witnesses in actions challenging local and congressional elections in three US states, nation-wide votes counted by the system may have been secretly altered.

The vote-counting program, challenged in Indiana, West Virginia and Maryland, was developed by *Computer Election Systems*, which has been accused of helping to rig elections - including the election of Ronald Reagan.

The rapidly increasing use of such systems and the widespread lack of computer skills among most local voting authorities constitutes a new and serious risk.

"There is a massive potential for problems," said Mr Gary Greenhalgh, director of the Washington-based International Centre on Election Law and Administration.

John Kemp, president of *Computer Election Systems*, denied the company was involved in fraudulent schemes, but also said any computer system could be tampered with.

"It is totally economically infeasible to have a fraud-proof system," he said, quoting the projected price of such a system at over \$US1 billion.

In three of the legal challenges against the company, losing candidates hired computer consultants who stated in court affidavits, testimony and interviews that the company's program had been designed so that vote totals could be altered without leaving any sign of tampering.

The allegations, if true, would render the last US Presidential elections invalid and unconstitutional - but they have received little attention since first being made in July, 1985.

Life, Death and Plastic Comets

Halley's Comet is partly made of plastic, according to analysis of data obtained during its last visit.

"It may be there are very few things man can make that don't already exist," said Mr Walter Huebner, who identified the polymerised formaldehyde polyoxymethylene. The Halley's plastic probably predates the sun and planets, and plastic compounds may also exist in other interstellar objects.

On leave from the US Los Alamos National Laboratory, Mr Huebner said the plastic was found deep within the comet's head, using spectroscopic analysis. The compound is among the easiest plastics to manufacture and was first produced on Earth around the turn of the century. Made from hydrogen, carbon and oxygen, it was probably formed in the comet by exposure to cosmic radiation or ultraviolet light.



Cosmic Sperm

Evidence also seems to confirm the theory that comets carry seeds of life through space. The discovery of organic matter - complex hydrogen-carbon molecules - in Comet Wilson by Australian scientists this year indicate that the chemical building-blocks of life may be transported by comets.

Similar chemicals were found in Halley's Comet in 1986 by Dr David Allen of the Anglo-Australian Observatory and Dr Dayal Wickramasinghe of the Australian National University.

They used a telescope-mounted infrared detector at Siding Spring Mountain Observatory near Coonabarabran to make both discoveries. They are investigating theories by British astronomer Fred Hoyle and Dr Chandra Wickramasinghe (Dayal's brother) that viruses and bacteria can exist in space and are brought to Earth by these 'cosmic spermatazoa'.

"Five years ago I wouldn't have believed a word of it," said Dr Wickramasinghe. "Now, I think it's quite possible."

"I don't think the implications - for biology, for the spread of diseases and the origin of life - have been investigated properly, because no-one outside a small group of people is thinking about them."

Unlike the regular visits of Halley's comet (which may have been contaminated by repeated passages through our solar system), Comet Wilson's flyby is thought to be its first and only trip into the inner solar system.

Life and Death?

The theory that a huge comet or asteroid caused the extinction of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago has gained support. A team of US Government geologists have found matching pieces of shattered quartz in sites across the world - from Europe to the middle of the Pacific.

The quartz is believed to have been hurled around the globe (along with a world wide dust "blanket") when a large object smashed through the Earth's crust. According to one British scientific team, this resulted in the formation of Greenland (which rose from the sea at roughly the same time) due to a massive upwelling from the mid-Atlantic ridge.

The dust blanket is thought to have starved off many species which survived the effect of impact - catastrophic earthquakes and 'mile-high tidal waves' encircling the globe.

Other evidence includes a layer of red clay deposited around the world 65 million years ago, coincident with mass extinction - its highest concentrations are centred around the North Atlantic.

Boomerang Volcanoes Return

Ancient Australian volcanoes have slowly marched down the East coast, forming chains in the shape of boomerangs pointing west.

Many of the eastern volcanic fields are young and dormant and an eruption could happen "at any time," but a new theory about the regular 'return' of the boomerang formations may help predict when and where our next volcano will erupt.

After twenty years of study and field work, Australian Museum geologist Dr Lin Sutherland recently noticed the regular boomerang shapes and that the boomerangs kept returning further south over time.

"Although it may not seem so, eastern Australia is one of the great volcanic belts of the world," Dr Sutherland said.

Aborigines Witnessed Eruptions

"Some are so fresh they look like they erupted just yesterday - and we cannot say they are extinct. Aborigines certainly witnessed eruptions and the last one, at Mount Gambier in South Australia, probably happened only about 4,000 years ago."

Eastern Australia's volcanoes have erupted regularly over the past 90 million years. The biggest and oldest are in north Queensland and they become younger and smaller as they progress south. According to the theory, the Australian continent has drifted north over a stationary 'hot spot' deep below the Earth's crust.

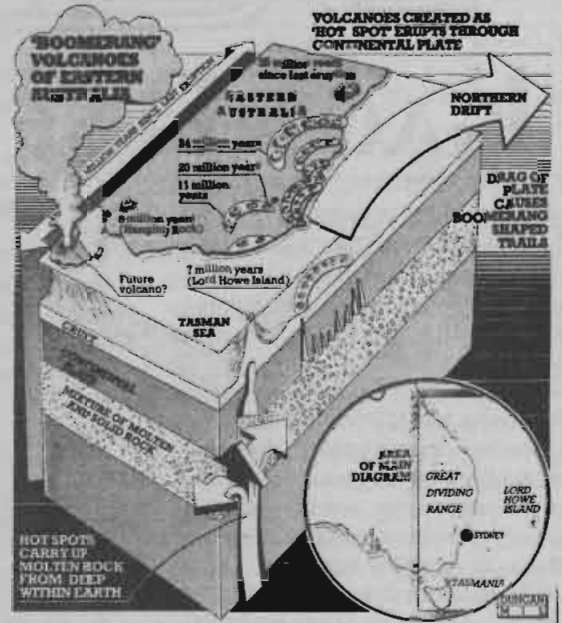
Regular eruptions from the hot spot may have formed the boomerang trail as the continent snaked across it in a 'dog-leg' fashion. The most recent southern volcanoes are the smallest, suggesting the hot spot is cooling down.

Northern Drift

The Australian continent is being pushed north at the rate of six centimetres a year as the oceans grow wider, according to Dr Laurie Drake, senior lecturer in Earth Sciences at Sydney's Macquarie University.

The continental plates also shift up to ten centimetres each year around the June solstice, causing minor tremors, says Dr Drake. This is due to the fact that the earth 'winds up' and slows down an-

clue to next volcanic eruption



nually in its elliptical orbit.

Tasmania Next?

Dr Sutherland, a senior Museum researcher in earth sciences, believes a mighty rift opened up like a zipper beneath the floor of the Coral and Tasman Seas 90 to 65 million years ago.

The rift in the crust now lies somewhere beneath Bass Strait, so Tasmania is the most likely candidate for our next

major volcano. Deep gas discharges have also been detected in Tasmanian mines and some of the crust in the region is much hotter than surrounding areas, but the time of another eruption is anyone's guess.

"It could be tomorrow or it could be 5,000 years away, but I'd say the chances of it happening again soon are pretty high," said Dr Sutherland.

Asteroid On Course for Earth

A giant asteroid seems on a collision course with Earth, according to Soviet scientist Alexander Voytsekhovskiy.

British astronomers have calculated that the asteroid, discovered four years ago and known as "1983 TV", will collide with the Earth in the year 2115, says Voytsekhovskiy.

"If studies confirm that the two celestial bodies will collide, then our successors will have two choices in order to save themselves - either to make the asteroid alter its course, or to blow it up in space," he wrote in the newspaper *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya*.

"Given the present level of scientific and technological progress, the second option is more realistic.

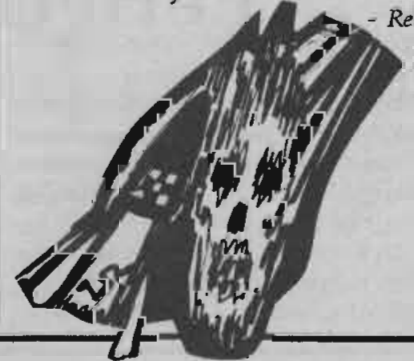
"But the complexity of the problem is obvious even to laymen."

Vast sums of money would be needed to precisely locate the asteroid and send a space interceptor to destroy it.

"It will be possible to solve this problem only in one way - by setting up an *All-World Space Service* for the defence of Earth," he said.

Mentioning lost civilizations, he said Atlantis may be only a hypothesis, "but huge craters on the Earth's surface caused by large meteoroids are a reality". He said only a great catastrophe could explain why such diverse civilizations as the Egyptians, Assyrians and the Mayans began their calendars at almost exactly the same time.

- Reuter



KAOS HACKS INTO SPACE

Young West German computer hackers who call themselves the *Chaos (Kaos) Computer Club* have broken into a top-secret computer network which interconnects NASA with the Western world's space agencies.

Denying accusations of espionage, the youths have told West German Interior Minister 'interrogators' that they planted a type of program known as a *Trojan horse* in the world-wide network of scientific research centres, known as SPAN, "for fun".

Intelligence services of the U.S., Britain, France, Germany, Japan and Switzerland have suppressed news of the attack for months. Some of the projects the *Kaos Computer Club* - who also call themselves *Data Travellers* - gained access to include British remote-sensing spy satellite programs, NASA space platform technology, French manned satellite plans and Japanese space computer communications technology.

"I had a slight shock when I saw appear on my screen: 'Welcome to the NASA headquarters VAX installation,'" Club spokesman Mr Wau Holland told *Stern* magazine.

The 'Trojan horses' downloaded by the hackers waited for a top-security user to log on with a secret password, recorded their computer keystrokes in a hidden file and revealed everything typed on the keyboard. Working over six months, the young West Germans implanted Trojans in highly classified systems which gave them 'authorised' access to alter accounts and security checks, thereby covering their tracks.

Worldwide Access

They accessed at least 135 computer centres in nine countries over six months, planting Trojan horses and a new keyword within the system. With these installed they entered any computer in the SPAN network they wished.

Some of the group, thought to have access to highly-classified operating manuals for *Digital Equipment* computers, have still not been caught.

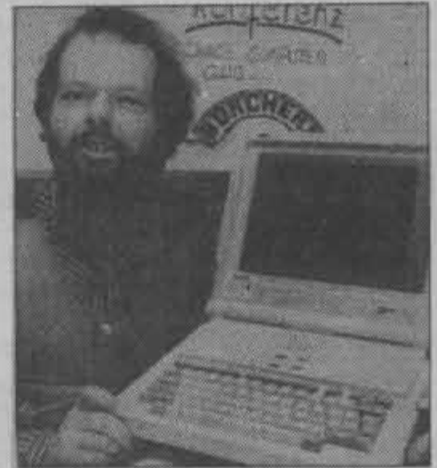
Trojan Worms?

A 'Trojan horse' program is infamous in computer circles as a downloaded program which looks like ordinary software, but which can wipe the programs of anyone who loads it into their system.

Trojan horses began appearing several years ago and have reached a high level of sophistication. Among the dozens of Trojans in circulation, some begin their destruction within minutes. Some known as "bombs" perform as legitimate software for weeks or months, then touch off an electronic time-bomb. Others, known as "viruses" or "worms", actually replicate and move from system to system, leaving seeds of destruction in their wake.

Star-Spangled Spanner

"There was a graphics program called *Run me* that I thought would be neat to run once," says Charles Rawls, a Manhattan computer user. "It played the 'Star-Spangled Banner' and displayed the American flag. Meanwhile, it was



worming its way into my hard disc and erased the data in it."

The hackers were prompted by NASA claims that their computers were absolutely secure and hacker-proof. NASA still have not recognised the data tampering, and claim their system is secure (and, presumably, has had no bombs, worms or viruses carried in by Trojan horse).

The Hamburg *Kaos Computer Club* announced the break-in on television, claiming to have discovered the Trojans while working within the SPAN network. They state they're out to prove there are holes in the security systems of the most well-protected computer systems.

Mr Holland further claims that the reason the hackers went public was that *most research at NASA is aimed at developing new weapons systems.*

Perfect Match

Colonel Gaddafi has married Nabila Koshoggi, the 25-year-old daughter of the Saudi Arabian oil magnate Adnan Koshoggi, according to Italy's largest circulation newspaper.

Mr Koshoggi, regarded as one of the richest men in the world, is reportedly in financial difficulty. He was a middle-

man in the U.S. ('Contragate') arms sales to Iran, and allegedly involved in the smuggling of Ferdinand Marcos' fortune out of the Philippines.

Colonel Gaddafi has signed a contract to sell Libyan crude oil to Mr Koshoggi at prices below those set by the OPEC, said Milan's *Corriere Della Sera.*



Plastic Money



Australian money - the alternative to plastic cards - is to be made of plastic. A new CSIRO invention is to change the face of our currency, starting with a Bicentennial commemorative banknote reportedly portraying Captain Cook.

The new money is made of a number of images set within laminated layers of plastic polymer, which can change colour when seen from different angles and even when touched. 'Impossible' to tear or reproduce photographically, the new notes are the culmination of a 20-year secret joint project between the CSIRO and the Reserve Bank, developed to make forgery impossible.

"It will save Australia millions of dollars because the notes will last much longer," said CSIRO chairman Neville Wran.

"But as soon as we start using them the rest of the world will want to follow suit and so there is the prospect for great earnings from the sale of patent and licensing rights." Australia may also produce the notes for less technologically advanced nations.

"I've held one in my hand and you can't pick them from a conventional note," said Mr Wran.

The Reserve Bank's annual report states that the \$2 note will be replaced by a coin in 1988 and that forty million old one dollar notes, withdrawn from circulation in 1984, are still missing - no doubt hidden under mattresses during the Fraser years.

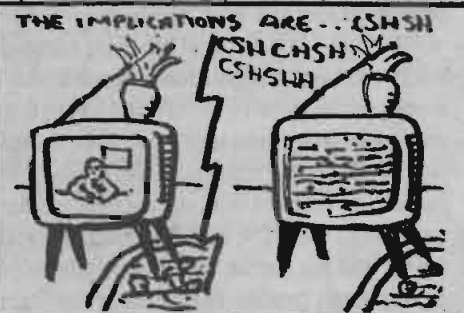
Is the CSIRO moving away from pure research and getting down to making money after all?

Chip Gun

A new "Chip Gun" has been developed which sends out a radio frequency signal to destroy computer chips.

"A pulse could be propagated over a wide zone, in roughly the same way that radio signals can blanket a city. It might act as an electronic wall disabling any approaching airplane, tank, or missile", according to defence specialist Chuck de Caro in *Atlantic Monthly* magazine.

Soviet superiority in radio defence applications has Western scientists and engineers worried [See NEXUS issue 2 for recent 'zap gap' developments].



Earl Resurrects King

James Earl Ray, jailed for life in the US for the murder of civil rights leader Dr Martin Luther King on April 4th, 1968, wants a retrial.

"I had a show trial, and that's about it," he said in an interview on British BBC TV. Ray claims his lawyer gave him no option but to plead guilty after he was captured in London on June 6th.

"I was just unfortunate to be in the wrong place at the wrong time," he said. In a series of magazine articles written in the US by William Bradford Huie, Ray claimed that he had been the unwitting pawn in a conspiracy to kill Nobel laureate Dr King.

At the close of his one-day trial on March 10th, 1969, both prosecution and defence attorneys went to great pains to explain to the jury that there was no conspiracy. Ray began to disagree but was interrupted by his defence counsel.

Under Tennessee law, pleading guilty to murder automatically reduced Ray's death sentence to 99 years.

In the same BBC program, King's son Martin said he believed more than one person was involved in his father's killing and that he did not rule out the involvement of the FBI.

ALLERGIC TO LIFE

Five Melbourne firemen have developed severe allergies to everyday items after being exposed to a gas released by burning building materials.

Toluene Di-Isocyanates (TDI) is used in paints, plastics and polyurethanes and turns to acid when it comes into contact with moisture.

One of the firemen, Mr Graeme Hartney, was exposed to TDI when his breathing apparatus was knocked from his face while fighting a chemical fire in South Melbourne in 1982. The gas burned his nose and respiratory tract, leaving him unable to filter air.

It also badly damaged his immune system and left him highly sensitised to newsprint, car exhaust, tap water and food kept in plastic containers or wraps. The smell of perfume or deodorant can

send him into a rage, give him headaches or force him to spend days in bed.

There are 20 more suspected cases in Victoria.



'Information is the currency of Democracy' - Ralph Nader

The major political parties are guaranteed free and equal media time by Australian news and broadcasting regulations. Others struggle on shoestring budgets to get their messages across.

Nexus is an independant publication which can provide room for a full spectrum of views.

In this issue we have two interviews with 'Green' activists: the first with controversial Green Party Senate candidate and anti-nuclear activist Ian Cohen, who has surfed on the bow of one US nuclear-armed warship and climbed onto the deck of another in Sydney harbour - two recent actions in the long career of this environmental campaigner.

How was your first Federal election?

Well, on a personal level it was quite a strain. I've usually worked as part of a group; whether out 'surfing warships' or doing a little flash individually, I'm generally springing from a very strong support group like the Peace Squadron or other groups concerned with rainforest issues.

With the last Federal election campaign the head left the tail in terms of our political organisation. We had people who were keen to work in the office and get things organised - there was a massive amount of work to be done in that area - but that was more or less separated from what I had to do as the front runner: to just get out and make a media splash.

Unlike the NDP with Peter Garrett at the previous election - who had his media machine ready to go, and who also had a very high profile before he even started - I felt I had to impress myself on the national arena almost on my own. I had a friend, Richard Gosden, who was invaluable, a very creative guy. We kept concocting confrontations with politicians like Hawke and Cohen - at the Bondi Pavilion to launch an Arts Heritage book where we started talking long and loud about the pollution at Bondi - through to Hawke's campaign launch and, of course, Howard's launch.

'It's pathetic that people in the alternative scene don't pull their finger out and do a big, brave act and REGISTER TO VOTE, because it's so important'

It was a formula that we stumbled upon by being there and heckling and seeing how the media would react. We realised that we could inject a type of radical direct action into the political process.

It certainly worked. I've just been checking the election breakdown and we certainly had our strong points in northern NSW and particularly the inner city electorates. But there was a trickle from right around the State and it would seem to me that that trickle came from the broadcasting that was achieved in the media by my antics.

On a personal level it was extremely intense. I walked around for about three weeks feeling that my head was twice the size it normally is and had headaches. I was trying to push myself, most notably at the Howard launch where I found myself in a roomful of thousands of staunch Liberal supporters. When I put a banner up and started heckling and was dragged off by security men, there was a very intense hatred directed at me in that room, by people who believe they were born to rule - you could feel it - you could cut the air with a knife. Every one of those events took a lot out of me.

In the past you've had to get arrested to make the news. Did you find it was easier to get attention as a Senate candidate?

Well, I was arrested at Hawke's campaign launch when he was on his barge. I was charged with obstruction and causing a nuisance to a vessel in restricted waters in the Harbour, I think it was. I have \$200 worth of fines plus a 12 month good behaviour bond for that and I'm appealing against the severity of it.

Arrests come as an often unexpected endgame to the chess that's going on. But I've found in the past and find still, that except in a few specific situations - like diving off the rocks into the pollution at Bondi and paddling through it, where that's enough of a highlight for the media to come and cover the issue without an arrest dangling like a carrot in front of their noses - in most cases, the situations I've developed have had to go to a point near arrest to create sufficient highlight for the media to be titillated and run it.

Everything that I did - for example, spending the night inside the end of the monorail tube - was an act that could, if the police had decided, have had me taken away and arrested. While they didn't bother (and I was glad that they didn't) it was still a position in which I was relatively vulnerable. I had to keep doing those things and take the risk of being arrested. That's why a good behaviour bond is really an infringement of my right to act politically, because I can't imagine myself running a successful campaign without being a little bit badly behaved.

Do you think we've reached a point where no real issues are raised in elections unless they're raised by people like yourself?

Definitely. It's a scam by the politicians, it's a glossy media event, it's the ultimate in hypocrisy by people who are running the country. The Labor Party's taken over the reins of power from the Liberals (who thought that they were destined to rule forever) - it's co-opted like some sort of bloodless coup. We saw a little machination with Fraser taking over from Whitlam a few years ago and now we have a situation where Labour have firmly grabbed the reins again. They're achieving their political ends through a process of subtle propaganda and they're avoiding the real issues.

One of our main themes in this run with the Greens was that we stick to the vital issues, whether it be a nuclear-armed warship or any other environmental issue that needs to be spoken about, and in fact it's easy pickings. I stood at many a public meeting with Democrat, Labor and Liberal party members speaking and I found that it was so damned easy because they were so hypocritical and were constantly lying. Everybody knows that politicians lie, and here we have a situation where you just stand up and say the truth.

It's so easy.

Waves

What reactions have you been getting from politicians for 'saying the truth'?

I've been getting very favourable reactions from a number of Democrat politicians and a number of left-wing Labor people. I've been getting vehement reactions from, for example, the Member for Richmond, Charles Blunt, with whom I clashed when he spoke at a housing and welfare forum at Rockdale alongside (Social Security) Minister Howe and Democrats. They wouldn't allow me on the platform as a Green candidate but I managed to get a question up from the floor. Blunt launched a vehement attack on someone who was holding up signs from the Unemployed Peoples' Union, going on a rabid, dolebashing blast...

He's in an electorate that's got a high percentage of unemployed alternative people and I'd like you to say in *NEXUS* magazine that it's pathetic that people in the alternative scene don't pull their finger out and do a big, brave act and REGISTER TO VOTE, because it's so important.

If I had 5,000 people in this state who are Green, who live in the forest and love the forests, live out of the city, who live in communities, who just had the bloody guts to vote, then I would be in Canberra right now. It's no big deal, because Robert Wood of the NDP is actually in there with Green preferences, and that's fantastic. But I was interested to see that in many of the 'alternative' areas, Richmond included, my vote wasn't as high as in the inner suburban seats of Sydney.

Do you put that down to a lack of people registering?

Yes, I'd say so. Lack of registration and resistance by alternative people who have been fed many years of propaganda to 'hide away, it doesn't have anything to do with you'...

..And disbelieve what any 'politician' tells them?

Exactly, and 'Don't vote, it only encourages them'. Well, if you don't vote that *does* encourage them. If you don't vote, they're able to survive.

Charles Blunt of the National Party is attacking the Social Service sector of this society and is surviving in this area by a mere six to eight thousand votes. Now if the 'alternative' people in this particular electorate were to register, then he would be out in the next election.

I'm now running for the local council elections under Fast Bucks on the Radical Ratbags ticket which, hopefully, will see Bucksie get into power in the Byron Shire Council and really start kicking heads in there.

We hope to get five, perhaps six Green Councillors in, including the President, and then we're dealing with a Green council - the implications could go far and wide through this society.



'If you don't vote that *does* encourage them. If you don't vote, they're able to survive.'

Is the path of the Greens to work from the grass roots up?

Definitely. The Federal Election was, in some ways, only a 'whistle blast' that started the race. In typical form, I went to bite off more than I could chew. But the real importance of the electoral process is in local councils and I just hope that my run in the Federal election signalled that 'these things are possible, you can get elected'. Next year there will be Green candidates in the State election.

I polled 32,000 votes in this last election and the Greens cover State elections perhaps even better than the NDP. Perhaps we could go into some sort of coalition, which I don't see as being a bad thing at all. If that's the case, with the sort of votes we got we should be able to get at least one person elected to the State Upper House. Each step along the way you're going to get more people who are going to vote for Greens, or NDP, or who have 'radical' voting patterns registered.

So if we've a series of maybe three or four processes where this is repeated - it has to be repeated because people are pretty thick and slow to act on this - then we'll get to a point where, by the time the next Federal election comes along, we *will* have extra people registered, we *will* be better known and people *will* be able to vote alternative candidates in. ∞

On first count in Byron Shire, Fast Bucks lost the election by two votes! -R.A..

Remote Area Power Assistance Scheme

The New South Wales Government has set up a Remote Area Power Assistance Scheme to help permanent residents of remote areas get an adequate domestic power supply.

Starting from the 1st January 1987, RAPAS is a five year scheme co-ordinated by the Energy Authority of NSW.

Grid Connection:

You may be eligible for a grant of 40% of a connection costs in excess of \$10,000. The maximum grant is \$10,000 for an outlay of \$35,000 or more.

Self Sufficiency:

For self-sufficient 'Stand Alone' systems - where the quoted cost of grid connection is over \$20,000 - you may be eligible for:

An annual subsidy of half the cost of operating and maintaining your system, with an upper limit of \$250 per year per property.

A grant of 40% of the cost of purchasing or upgrading a system. The maximum grant is \$10,000 for a system costing \$25,000.

Assistance may be provided for; diesel or petrol generating sets, batteries, inverters, photovoltaic cells, micro-hydro systems, wind generators, solar hot water systems, battery chargers and system wiring and installation costs - up to 33% of system hardware costs.

ANNUAL SUBSIDY

Anyone purchasing or currently operating a stand alone power system may be eligible for an annual subsidy of 50%



of fuel and maintenance costs, up to a maximum of \$250 - paid retrospectively.

RAPAS assistance is designed for domestic systems only.

For full details see the Remote Area Power Assistance Scheme Guidelines, available from the Energy Authority of New South Wales, GPO Box 485, Sydney 2001, Phone 02-234-4444; or electricity supply authorities.

Only a Game...

September 7th, 1988 has been named "Day of Destruction of War Toys in All Countries of the World".

In a symbolic gesture in Geneva, the Dalai Lama (spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists) smashed two plastic tanks with a hammer to announce the day. The World Association for Orphans and Abandoned Children named the date to draw attention to this overt programming of children to regard warfare as a normal human endeavour.

"Although I am a monk, a man of peace, when I was young I was very fond of these war toys. Unconsciously, without knowing it, it made some kind of impact on my mind," said the Dalai Lama, who called his gesture "mini-disarmament".

The only child at the ceremony, a five year old boy named Siddarta, walked away with an undamaged Sherman tank saying: "I like military games."

Toy Swords to Ploughs

A worldwide Christian movement for peace and disarmament has formed a group called the National Coalition Against War Toys to initiate the immobilisation and dismantling of war toys in Australia.

Anyone concerned about the sale and promotion of war and violence-related toys and entertainment should contact:

Pax Christi Australia P.O. Box 31,
Carlton South, Victoria 3053
Phone (03) 459-2697

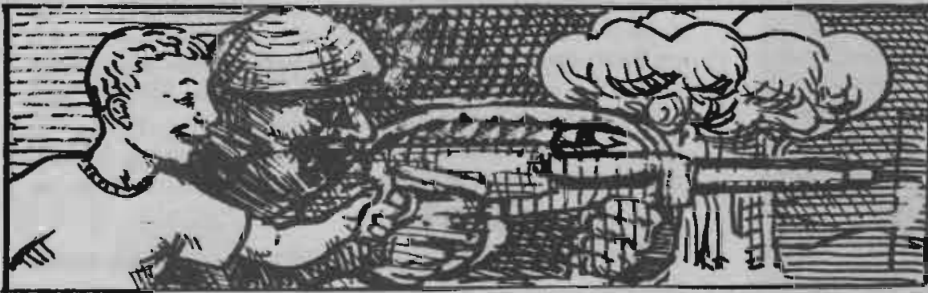


Waterfall Rock Carvings

Aboriginal rock carvings beside the Princes Highway at Waterfall were recently photographed by a radio-controlled camera suspended from a helium balloon.

In a Bicentenary project by archaeologist Les Bursill (of Sutherland council) and scientists from Lucas Heights, the balloon took photos from 90 metres above the carvings.

The Menai-Bundeena area was once inhabited by the Darwhaal tribe, who carved the now-fading images of fish, whales and other creatures into the sandstone hundreds or even thousands of years ago. The carvings also depict 'dragon' and 'cow'-like animals.



Last Nomads Battle for Rainforests

Native tribespeople have been holding loggers at bay with blowpipes and spears in Malaysia.

The Penan people of Sarawak in Malaysian Borneo are the last nomadic hunters in South-East Asia. A few hundred of the 8,000-strong tribe have been defending their rainforests from Malaysian Government-backed logging companies for the last year. In September, at the start of World Rainforest Week, they destroyed the logging companies' bridges into the 'park' that is their home.

As part of a worldwide campaign in support of the Penan people, members of the NSW Wilderness Society delivered a petition of 2,000 signatures to the Malaysian Trade Commission in Sydney in September.

"The Malaysian Peninsula has been almost logged out of rainforest timbers," campaign director Matthew Jamieson said.

"The Government has now turned to logging in Sarawak and Sabah, in Malaysian Borneo.

"The Penan tribe, which derives its food of fruit, roots, and wildlife from the forests, is now under threat as logging companies approach their forests.

"(They) have held the loggers off with primitive weapons, mainly because world pressure has stopped reprisals. But now it remains to be seen how long they can last against Government and logging company pressures."

Australian Deported

In March this year, Sydney botanist and journalist Petr Faigl was deported to Australia from Sarawak. He had arrived



in January to interview Bruno Manser, a Swiss artist, cheesemaker and spelunker living in Sarawak for nearly three years as a guest of the Penan.

Manser says "they are poor people if you look at their possessions, but if you look at their minds they are rich people." He is studying the Penan culture and is compiling a dictionary of their language as he continues to live with them despite threats, police harassment and malaria.

European and Australian travellers have been entering the jungles between Ulu Sungei Tutoh and Ulu Sungei Limbang since Manser began raising world awareness of the plight of the Penan.

"The Penan people are an aboriginal group with a distinct language and culture, inhabiting the north-eastern part of Sarawak," says Faigl.

"Originally nomadic, some have already settled or are in the process of settling, chiefly as a result of government incentives and the pressure of massive logging activities in their traditional hunting grounds by a number of logging companies.

"Roads are being constructed and timber being removed without their consent, or even the knowledge of the majority of the Penan people and their representatives. Compensation for damages is non-existent or far from adequate, while token handouts to influential individuals are intended to quell the possibility of any dissent."

Malaysia is the world's largest rainforest timber exporter - primarily to Japan and China. But 80% of Australia's imported rainforest 'timber' comes from Malaysia, mainly Sarawak.

The Penan Declaration

"We, the Penan people of the Tutoh and Limbang Rivers region declare:

"Stop destroying the forest or we will be forced to protect it.

"The forest is our livelihood. We had lived here before any of you outsiders came. We fished in clean rivers and hunted in the jungle. We made our sago meal and ate fruit from the trees. Our life was not easy, but we lived it in content. Now the logging companies turn rivers into muddy streams and the jungle into devastation. The fish cannot survive in dirty rivers and wild animals will not live in devastated forest.

"You took advantage of our trusting nature and cheated us into unfair deals. By your doings, you take away our livelihood and threaten our very lives. You make our people discontent. We want our ancestral land, the land we live off, back. We can use it in a wiser way. When you come to us, come as guests, with respect...

"We the representatives of the Penan people, urge you: stop the destruction now. Stop all logging activities in the Tutoh and Limbang Rivers regions. Give back to us what is properly ours. Save our lives, have respect for our culture. If you decide not to heed our request, we will protect our livelihood. We are a peace-loving people, but when our very lives are in danger, we will fight back.

"This is our message."

Send any letters on this important issue to His Excellency Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Mahmud and His Excellency's Government of Malaysia, The Malaysian High Commissioner, 7 Perth Ave, Yarralumla ACT 2600
For further information contact the Rainforest Information Centre, PO Box 368, Lisrnore 2480

Imagine

Northern NSW avocado farmer Dean Jefferys is renowned for flying over the prohibited area at Roxby Downs uranium mine and over land surrounding Pine Gap in his ultralight aircraft 'Imagine'. He is better known for his daring anti-nuclear warship demonstrations over Sydney Harbour (where he paint-bombed the nuclear depth charge-carrying USS John Buchanan and dropped a wreath and videotape onto the deck of the aircraft carrier HMS Illustrious) for which he was sentenced to a total of 40 days jail.

NEXUS travelled to northern New South Wales to Dean's property to hear what he had to say. Has his forty days in the wilderness dampened his spirits? Judge for yourself.

It was important for me to use non-violent direct action to show people that to support nuclear warship visits was to support the very thing that is now threatening life on this planet.

I feel if we can convince enough people to love and trust our fellow human beings instead of threatening each other with extinction there may be hope yet for our children and future generations to go out and enjoy life in a greener, peaceful, non-radioactive planet.

It appears to me that we have two choices in this world; we can choose to be caught up into a never-ending spiral of acquiring material possessions, which undoubtedly leads to greed. Or we can decide we're going to create harmony on this Earth with ourselves and with our creator.

Harmonic Convergence

What I'm seeing now is not so much a move away from direct action as more emphasis put on linking up globally, mentally. The Harmonic Convergence was excellent - world prayers for peace and world meditations for peace. Linking up our minds with other people around the world, that seems to be the next stage.

I see all this direct action still being quite necessary just to jog peoples' minds and their social attitudes and to get people activated; but I see the next stage that we need to go to is a global linkup on a mental level.

'I see all this direct action still being quite necessary just to jog peoples' minds and their social attitudes and to get people activated; but I see the next stage that we need to go to is a global linkup on a mental level'

We have a meeting tonight in Coff's Harbour and another one tomorrow night and I'll be trying to get local circles happening on a specific date every fortnight or month and try and get a linkup happening. I don't know if it's already happening but there are probably some groups already doing this.

It just needs to be networked a bit more. What I'd like to do is coordinate specific timed meditations so that we know that every fortnight or the first Sunday of every month or every full moon, circles are happening at a certain time.

When everyone sits down they can start to tune in to everyone else and even have some communication happening between the groups so that we might have a certain theme for a certain moon.



It can start off on a local level and then spread around the world.

I'm sure it's already happening, but I think there needs to be a bit of work done as far as networking goes. That was what was so good about the Harmonic Convergence - at 10 o'clock and at the same time all over the world people were tuning in and I felt that really strongly. It was just great.

If we can spread the word through community networks then that's where we're going to start to see the next change happening.

I still find these warships coming in quite necessary. Without the warships there wouldn't be the demonstrations and without the demonstrations there wouldn't be people coming together with a common goal. It's the threat of nuclear war and the threats to the environment which are uniting people and moving us all on to the next stage of evolution.

The nuclear threat is coming into our presence - we can see the nuclear bombs virtually in our front yard, so it activates us all to join together and, for a start, stop them. But in that process of trying to stop them we're joining our spirits with a common theme of peace and unity. Peace is only going to be achieved when we have unity. We can't have peace without unity and I think it's the call for peace which is going to help bring about unity.

Peace activists working against the warships is great, but I see there also needs to be a backup action with people who don't necessarily want to get out on the water in front of warships - anyone who wants to contribute in their own way can sit down at a certain time through the month and just think positive, loving thoughts. I'd like to be putting my energies into that a bit more now, too.

I'm making a video at the moment which is available for sale for the cost of copying it that can be shown at gatherings, peace meetings or circles. It would be really nice, rather than just to sit down and meditate together, to make a whole evening out of it and share food and talk, maybe show a video or play a tape. I'm putting other things on the videos aside from peace actions.

Dean's peace videos are available for \$20 (including mailing) from: Dean Jefferys, P.O. Box Bowraville, NSW, 2449

by R. H. Ayana

Hit or Myth

*Recent revelations about the reliability of nuclear weapons begs the question:
Is Nuclear War Impossible?*

The United States has suspended tests of the *MX* missile - its latest model rocket - because the missile can't hit its target. The *MX* has been tested properly only five times and twice didn't even come close to the mark, according to a recent report by the Congress Armed Services Committee.

This is the latest in a long history of nuclear weapons failures.

Since the 1960s the world's nuclear missile systems have not been built to function. With up to 2,000 moving and electronic parts, nuclear weapons are very vulnerable to corrosion, shock and electrical failures.

In 1965 it was found that 50% of the *Polaris* Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs) were duds because of missile arming device failures. Similar failures kept most of America's land-based *Minuteman* ICBMs under repair in the '60s, when 160 had to be rebuilt.

Minute Chance

Four tests of *Minuteman* missiles from "operational" missile silos were conducted in combat-simulation tests in 1966-68.

All failed.

Three of the missiles never left their silos due to electrical problems. The fourth had to be destroyed in flight. Since then, US missiles have been tested under carefully prepared "artificial" conditions.

The US Army's *W-45* short-range tactical nuclear missile developed "serious corrosion" and many were eliminated from the US stockpile, according to a Department of Energy report.

"At times in the past the warheads for a large part of the US submarine missile force have been found to be badly deteriorated. At different times, a large fraction of the warheads were obvious or potential duds," the report said.

Most data available on nuclear duds focuses on the period up until the 1970s. But in 1979, several thousand of the more advanced *Poseidon* submarine missiles had to be rebuilt due to chemical corrosion caused by explosives reacting with metal.

The Pentagon has admitted that many of the 15 million improperly-tested *Texas Instruments* microchips used in a multitude of US defence systems may not work. Up to one third of the *Trident C-4* missiles have engine faults, while a further one-third have software bugs, or faults in their guidance systems.

A freeze on nuclear warhead production would END any prospect of global nuclear war within a few years due to short 'shelf-life'

Soviet MISSILES

The Soviet Union's missile systems may be even less workable. Their main ICBMs - *SS-18s* and *SS-19s* - use liquid fuel, which is prone to corrosion and accidental explosion - as demonstrated to the West by the 1980 blast of an aging US liquid-fuelled *Titan* nuclear missile in its Arkansas silo.

Soviet SLBMs also use liquid fuel, creating dangers for their submarine crews - perhaps one reason why *less than 20% of Soviet nuclear submarines are usually at sea.*

US experts on the Soviet Union conservatively estimate that *one third of their missile force is down for repairs at any given time* (is this based on conservative US figures?).



The Central Intelligence Agency, revising early assessments in 1986, concluded that the late-model Soviet ICBM *SS-19* is not reliable or accurate enough to use in a surprise strike against US missile silos. Furthermore, the Soviets purchase many of their missile guidance systems (sold through 'neutral' countries) from the US - who insert more bugs in their already suspect programs.

The nuclear arsenals of the world are hopelessly constructed. The engines, software, arming mechanisms and warheads themselves are all fault-ridden. Warhead batches have to be tested regularly to determine tritium losses and other radioactive decay variables - *a freeze on nuclear warhead production would END any prospect of global nuclear war within a few years* due to their short 'shelf-life'.

However, the Soviets now claim to be able to test their warheads without detonating random samples from batches (see *NEXUS* issue one) - but they want to end 'weapons' testing despite this fact, realising they can no longer afford to play the arms race game. *Continued Next Page*



E.M.P.

In November 1961 the United States tested a one and a half megatonne nuclear weapon called "*Starfish Prime*", 400 kilometres above the atmosphere over Johnston Island in the Pacific. One result was that all communications in Hawaii (and within a fifteen-hundred kilometre radius) were temporarily blacked out - three hundred Hawaiian streetlights exploded, power lines fused and TV sets exploded.

Another result was the signing in 1962, at the height of the 'Cold War', of the space weapons testing ban. This was because the Americans had discovered - or demonstrated - the effects of an **Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP)** which issues from a nuclear blast at an altitude of between 40 and 400 kilometres.

This was never mentioned at the time and the 1962 treaty was passed over as a mutual back-slapping gesture. The public only knows about EMP today due to 1976 revelations in the world press about the Soviet *MIG 25 Foxbat* interceptor, which was flown to Japan by a Soviet defector and dismantled. The *Foxbat* used valves instead of more advanced circuitry and had a 'second skin' to stop electromagnetic radiation.

EMP has a number of extraordinary electromagnetic and electrostatic effects: massive electromagnetic pulses cause grid-connected power or telephone lines to carry 10 million volts at up to 10,000 amperes, transistors in circuits will burn out, TVs and telephones will explode like bombs and people will be electrocuted in metal bathtubs connected to pipes.

But EMP can short out modern circuitry and 'scramble' missile guidance systems.

All this means that a 'real' nuclear war would be initiated by a few upper-atmosphere nuclear blasts. These would destroy almost all electrical communication and weapons systems before a shot could be fired. 'Modern' planes, tanks, ships and guidance systems would be immobilised, continent-wide, by a single small nuclear weapon.

"To achieve surprise in a war," says a Soviet war manual, "high altitude nuclear explosions can be carried out to destroy systems of control and communication." How many satellites are in orbit today? How many carry nuclear weapons?

E.M.P. is one more reason why the superpowers have not been arming for a 'real' war for a generation (and why the Swiss have all military computers buried at least 600 metres underground).

Lethal Umbrella

Most of the money in nuclear weaponry comes from reprocessing warheads which have exceeded their shelf-life. All fifty thousand are reprocessed every few years. This big money is in the hands of the nuclear energy agglomerates. Even more trillions of dollars are being committed to the 'Strategic Defence Initiative' (SDI) - another system which is not being built to work (at least in the way in which it is explained) for the following reason:

SDI is designed to 'protect' the West by shooting down incoming missiles. It is promoted as an 'umbrella of protection'.

But even if the system could be made to work (and it would be impossible to list all the operational problems here), the fallout from disintegrating nuclear warheads dropping to Earth would carry a minimum of 200 tonnes of Plutonium dust, enough to destroy most life on the planet (one micron, or one millionth of one gram of Plutonium, is lethal if inhaled or ingested).

Now President Reagan is refusing to place SDI on the nuclear weapons reduction negotiating table. It doesn't matter economically if all the obsolete short and intermediate nuclear missiles are scrapped - *Star Wars* will generate more money for the nuclear industry than any other project in human history.

'Modern' planes, tanks, ships and guidance systems would be immobilised, continent-wide, by a single small nuclear weapon.

Money

In 1984, the United States gained the dubious distinction of making more money from the sale of weapons than anything else; US\$300 billion in that year alone.

One-third of the US Federal budget goes to the military and a quarter of the US Gross Domestic Product is military-oriented, so the US Congress has a vested interest in the job-creation brought about by 'defence work' contracts granted in their constituencies.

In 1981, Rockwell International told Congress that the *B-1B* bomber would be built from parts manufactured in 50 states - Congress bought the *B-1B* bomber.

1984 estimates that up to 50% of the US workforce is engaged in 'defence-related' work cannot be adequately tested, as military programs are deeply integrated into 'civilian' sectors - but the 1988 US 'defence' budget is \$US304 billion.

Continued Next Page

The actual arms manufacturing industries alone directly account for half a million US jobs (750,000 in Europe). Caspar Weinberger said of one arms-reduction proposal last year:

"We must remember at least 350,000 jobs are at stake and will be lost if there are any drastic military cuts."

Most controversy surrounding arms manufacture has nothing to do with whether the weapons are ethical or whether they work or not, but relate to jobs and trade balances. Weaponry secrets have become largely non-existent, as *full specifications of most weapons appear in the sales catalogues necessary to the industry.*

Trapped in the Arms Race

This means that governments *cannot afford* to end the 'arms race' without busting their economies - precisely what President Eisenhower warned would happen shortly after World War II. He said the military-industrial complex would end up running the US if it could not be disarmed. *Irangate* is just one small (but visible) result.

Another example explains much: *General Dynamics* (which a decade ago was considered a failing corporation) now has 94% of its work oriented around defence contracts. *GenDyn* made nine *Trident* nuclear submarines and sold them to the US. They also gave around \$65,000 in gifts to Admiral Hyman Rickover of the Pentagon, for which G.D. was fined a pittance in 1985 (and subsequently offered new contracts). G.D. has made US\$2 billion profit since 1972 and has paid NO TAX.

We find ourselves in a position where imple- ments of mass death are 'protecting' us from world economic disaster.

The problem is hardly confined to the United States; NATO estimates that 40% of Soviet industry is military, tying up three-quarters of the Soviets' best scientists. One-third of French exports are armaments, but Britain recently replaced France as the third-largest international arms seller.

The money used to pay for weapons deals often does not exist. France guarantees loans of up to 85% of arms contracts at less than 7%; in the US, the Foreign Military Sales program will give credits on 100% of arms contracts at 3% interest, reimbursable in thirty years. Most nations even offer such unheard-of terms to their actual and potential enemies.

Sword of Damocles

A global nuclear war is simply impossible. It is a mythical 'Sword of Damocles' protecting the balance of power - politics, economics and energy. The nuclear weapons manufacturers are the nuclear power producers. The amount of money involved is astronomical and is literally bankrupting the world.

Somehow we find ourselves in a position where implements of mass death are 'protecting' us from world economic disaster. Who are the nuclear 'powers' fooling? Certainly not each other.

They are holding a rubber sword at our backs and muttering war cries ☐

- R.H. AYANA

A New Crisis Solution for the Amazon

In an economic deal designed to save the Amazon, Bolivia has agreed to protect millions of hectares of its threatened tropical rainforests in return for a reduction in foreign debt.

Bolivia has sold its outstanding debt to the bank *Citicorp* at a discount market price. *Citicorp* sold the debt to *Conservation International*, an ecological organisation. *Conservation* turned the \$A918,060 'note' over to the Bolivian Government, which then agreed to set aside and protect 1.5 million hectares in the country's north.

Wholistic Solution

"Environmental degradation and weak economies, deforestation and poverty, overpopulation and hunger are now recognised as clearly inter-related," said Mr Peter Seligmann, executive director of *Conservation International*.

The agreement, signed in a US Bolivian Embassy, deals with two critical inter-related global problems: the rapid destruction of tropical rainforests (and their plant and animal species) and the huge foreign debts of 'developing' and 'Third World' countries.



Mass Extinction

Mr Seligmann said there is a "global debt and environmental crisis" in which tropical forests are being destroyed at "an unprecedented rate, and we are in the midst of an extinction unprecedented even by the extinction of the Pleistocene era".

He hopes that "this new debt-for-nature swap will encourage future negotiations of this kind that confront the debt crisis worldwide with workable, long term alternatives - and that the current trends in global resource destruction, which are exacerbated by the debt crisis, will soon be reversed.

Many nations look for quick-fix solutions to the crippling debts that use up their resources and economic potential. The affected Bolivian *Beni Biosphere Reserve* (established by decree in 1982 and including the *Chimane Forest Reserve*) is the home of the nomadic Chimane Indians, some 500 species of birds and 13 endangered species of plants and animals.

Under threat by nearby logging and cattle ranching operations, the Reserve holds *more tree species than all of North America*.

Waste Not, Want Not

A Canadian town has converted its sewage system to energy production.

The heat recovery and cogeneration system in Orangeville, Ontario is saving the town at least \$C70,000 in electricity and heating costs in its first year and could earn the town an additional \$10,000 a year from the sale of heat.

The system takes advantage of the town's sewage treatment plant, using methane to generate thermal and electrical energy, to heat and light the plant. Excess energy heats a nearby school. The scheme cost \$320,000, part of a \$5 million expansion of Orangeville's water pollution control plant.



Drilling for Sewage

Sydney has seen a drilling rig appear in the sea off north Bondi and move south down the suburban beachscape. Towed thousands of miles from Singapore, this strange apparition is the Sydney Water Board's solution to Sydney's sewage overload.

The rig is drilling 93 vertical diffuser holes through the seabed 3 kilometres out from Bondi Beach in part of a new system of ocean outfall tunnels.

This controversial system has been decried as a cosmetic solution to the beach pollution problem which fails to address the real health and environmental issues involved; bacteriological contamination, industrial heavy metal pollution and waste of a valuable resource.

Mystery Dolphin Plague

Hundreds of dead or dying dolphins have been washed up along America's Atlantic coast suffering from an amazing variety of diseases.

In July alone, 70 dolphins were found from the North Carolinas to New Jersey - the normal annual figure is four. American and Canadian scientists from the Smithsonian Institute and government departments, environmental groups and dolphinaria are studying the deaths.

"This thing is dragging on like the plague," said the Smithsonian's William McLellan. "Something really nasty is happening to those dolphins."

Autopsies show they are dying painful deaths from internal haemorrhaging, with fluid in their lungs, stomach and chest cavities; enlarged spleens and other organ abnormalities; bronchial pneumonia; ulcer-covered mouths and skin peeling off like plastic wrapping.

The deaths are caused by bacteria including *streptococci* and a large number of *Vibro* bacteria. These are normally present in the marine environment, but have suddenly become lethal to dolphins alone.

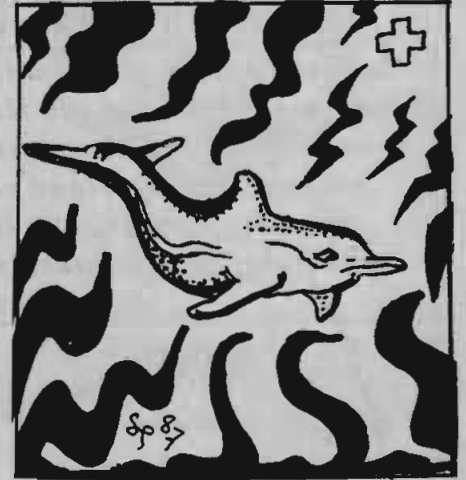
"This has never happened before - it's not in any of the literature, it's unprecedented," said Dr Joseph Geraci, a marine pathologist who heads a Virginia team of scientists studying the deaths full-time.

Dolphin AIDS?

Suggested causes have ranged from biological toxins (pollutants) to a virus or dolphin immunological disorder - the symptoms resemble those of AIDS to an uncanny degree, and the opportunistic infections swarming through the dolphins' bodies definitely indicate an immune system breakdown.

"Even if we found it was a disease and came up with a vaccine, we couldn't go offshore and give each animal a shot," says McLellan. Dolphins live in extended 'tribal' groups, and if a disease is responsible they may infect each other or be infected individually.

It's also possible we are witnessing the first effects of ultraviolet damage to mammal lymphatic (immune) systems due to ozone depletion, or that huge amounts hospital waste (including used syringes) recently found illegally



dumped off New Jersey beaches are responsible.

The gay newspaper *New York Native*, has suggested the dolphins may have human *B-cell lymphotropic virus* (HBLV) which attacks immune systems; "We suspect that HBLV is actually African swine fever virus," they said, adding that an armed forces scientist was working with this virus and that it could destroy the immune systems of several species.

Sea Shepherds

Environmentalists from the group *Sea Shepherds* boarded two of Iceland's fleet of four whaling ships, opened sea valves and sank them in protest against the continued Icelandic hunting of whales.

The unmanned ships were anchored in mothballs while the remaining two were still being used. A *Greenpeace* breakaway group, *The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society* saved about 200 whales and also demolished a whale meat processing plant, according to founder Paul Watson.

"Our organization has the full right to sink the whalers because Iceland is violating the (International Whaling Commission) moratorium," he said.

Watson described the *Sea Shepherds* as "an unofficial policing body". Jailed in Canada for trying to stop the slaughter of baby harp seals and in Kenya for a campaign to save elephants, he said he would welcome a chance to appear in court to defend his actions - anywhere but Iceland. In 1980 the *Sea Shepherds* sank two Spanish whaling vessels with magnetic mines.

KOALAS DISAPPEARING

Koalas are being decimated throughout eastern Australia by a disease which has reduced their survival prospects alarmingly.

For some years it has been known that a form of *chlamydia* lethal to koalas



has been spreading in Australia, leaving blindness, sterility and death in its wake. Now colonies have disappeared from the western ranges of NSW, and a recent survey from Sydney to the Victorian border counted *only six sightings*.

In the Lismore region (which until recently had the largest colonies in the state) numbers are down by 80%. Further north in the Darling Downs, the koala population has been *halved* in the last decade. Half of those remaining are infected with *chlamydia* and suffering.

Victoria's Phillip Island reports that 98% of their koalas are infected. The destruction of the koalas' forest environment has been cited by researchers as a cause of their susceptibility to the killer disease.

"If this evidence is confirmed in future studies, there is indeed an urgency to understand chlamydial infections in koalas ... for the sake of their own survival!", according to an as-yet-unpublished university report in NSW.

The Third Pole

On the Road to Baltistan

To most people the Himalayas conjure up names like Tibet and Nepal: but the Himalayas span many nations - some way off the beaten track until the new Silk Road reopened an overland route from Asia to Europe.

Peter Krygman, our Himalayan correspondent, continues his Hitchiker's Guide with a tale from the 'little Tibet' - Baltistan



Along the Chinese border with Pakistan to the south-east of the Hunza valley (explored in *Nexus New Times Two*), the Tibetan plateau has been forced up from the ancient Tethys seabed which once separated Gondwanaland from the rest of Asia. The inexorable drift of the Indian tectonic plate into Asia has formed the Karakorum mountains, the cutting edge of the Himalayas.

Here, immense glaciers provide enough meltwater to form huge lakes nestled among the highest mountains in the world.

These glaciers create the upper Indus River, which lies in the Himalayan rainshadow; much of Baltistan is dry, barren, steep moraines of loose stone, sheer mountain peaks - and enough ice to be named 'the third pole'.

Our bus from Gilgit in Pakistan to Baltistan's remote capital, Skardu, takes us through some of the most desolate, yet spectacular country

I have ever seen.

For much of its length the road is literally carved out of the mountainside and in places the roof of our 'well-ventilated' Pakistani bus scrapes on overhanging rocks, while hundreds of feet below us the mighty Indus River, swollen by the summer glacial melt, crashes and surges its way through huge boulders, sending showers of spray high into the air.

The mountains are so high the sky is barely visible above me.

Through these immense stony corridors the narrow horizon reveals bare sawtooth ridges, girdled with ice and interspersed with sheer pencil-like peaks. I feel like a Lilliputian intruder lost among chimneys and spires of some Brobdingnagian domain.

Notwithstanding stops for lunch, chai and the odd landslide, we complete the 150 mile trip in eight hours.

Skardu

Seven and a half thousand feet above sea level, Skardu is a dusty, windy place overlooking a wide sandy plain. It is encircled by rugged snowcapped mountains in which are hidden two emerald green glacier-fed lakes known as Satpara and Kachura. For all the loneliness of the remote landscape we could have been at one of the ends of the earth. But our real destination is yet to come; Khapalu on the Shyok River at the very headwaters of the mighty Indus.

Our jeepload of fifteen passengers completes the seventy mile trip in about four and a half hours, passing through rocky gorges strewn with glacial ice and scree. Here we see a party of four men, all armed with Pakistani Kalashnikov AK-47 assault rifles, made locally at Darra near Peshawar, close to the Afghan border.

Quite suddenly the narrow valley opens out onto a broad lake surrounded by a wall of jagged snowpeaks. Five miles from Khapalu at the village of Kharfaq we see our first yaks - or more probably hybrid 'dzos', better suited to this altitude, turning a grindstone to crush barley.

Village Life

Walking up through Khapalu we notice small irrigation canals everywhere across the steep track between the terraced fields of barley and potatoes, orchards of apricot and mulberry trees - even under the village dwellings themselves - all ingeniously dug to channel the glacial meltwater through the village on its long way down to the Indus.

Women working in the fields greet us warmly, offering us apricots and directions to the old Raja's house. A pleasant change from the strict orthodoxy of most of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, where an attempt at conversation

through a woman's veiled *chaderi* can provoke angry reactions from bystanders.

The houses and people here are very Tibetan in appearance and their Balti language is a Tibetan dialect - legacy of the time a thousand years ago, when a Tibetan nomad empire stretched westward almost as far as the present-day Afghani border.

A morning's walk upriver toward the small village of Surrmo is rewarded by a magnificent view of 25,650 ft Mount Masherbrum, rising up from the Shyok River which lays cradled between jagged snowcapped ranges, etching a stark horizon against the clear blue of the Himalayan sky.

The roof of our 'well-ventilated' Pakistani bus scrapes on overhanging rocks, while hundreds of feet below us crashes the mighty Indus River

On the way back we encounter some men carrying a framework of poplar wood onto which has been tied inflated goatskins and some tractor tubes. Accepting their offer of a more leisurely trip back to Khapalu, we accompany them back up the track until a suitable spot is found. There, after giving the goatskins a few extra puffs of air, we manhandle the craft down a steep embankment of boulders to the water's edge. The raft, or *ziak*, is not made to be steered so the '*ziakban*' use long poles to push us out into the current, warding the heavily laden, half submerged craft away from any sandbanks. Their local knowledge of the wide river takes us to a small nursery on the far bank. After some passengers alight, we recross the swirling grey waters back to Khapalu.

The following day a government officer offers to send us back to Skardu by way of his home village of Michulo. After another river crossing by *ziak*, the non-arrival of our jeep requires that we walk to



Michulo. En route, at a convergence of valleys, we have a clear view up the Shyok River as far as the mist-shrouded mountains of the Ladakhi border.

Paradise Lost?

A few days later a jeep from Hushe, higher up in the mountains, arrives on its way to Skardu. Again we travel along steep rocky gorges skirting wild plunging rivers; but also through a wide alpine valley of green pastures dotted with livestock surrounded by an impregnable wall of snowcapped mountains. The very incongruity of this paradise lost in the wilderness reminds us of local legends which locate the original *Garden of Eden* on the banks of the Shyok River.

As we approach Skardu we see smoke rising in the distance and passing truckdrivers warn us of trouble ahead in the frontier town. Soon after, security forces stop our vehicle, and as we wait to proceed we hear alarming news of Skardu's first murder in forty years.

Although the culprit is arrested and removed from the vicinity, an angry mob loot and burn his property, setting fire to much of the town's centre as well.

Upon reaching the outskirts of town we are confronted by a crowd of a hundred people marching towards us. Our driver pulls off the road and we move to a safe distance from the jeep in case it becomes the object of their fury, but they continue on

down the road - headed for the murderer's place of confinement.

Our driver takes back streets into Skardu, refusing to drive us all the way to the main square where our modest hotel is situated. When we try to walk there we are dissuaded by the sounds of shots and the sight of a row of smouldering shops.

Heeding the warnings of worried townsfolk, we take the back alleys to a hotel somewhat more opulent than our own, close to a mosque. We take refuge and quench our thirst after eight long, hot, dusty hours in the back of a jeep. As dusk approaches the scattered shooting ceases and, to the eerie wail of the *muezzin* calling the faithful to prayer we slip back to our own hotel - the buildings around it all burned to the ground.

Although no-one is seriously injured as yet, the manager departs, fearing for his own safety and promising to arrange for our return to Gilgit on the first available bus in the morning.

At dawn we wait by the charred shell of a jeep outside the burned-out remains of the bus station. We hastily board the first bus to arrive. It takes us out of Skardu until we meet the right bus, complete with our smiling hotel manager assuring us that the situation is now calm and that he is returning to Skardu.

He bids us a sincere farewell from his land of craggy peaks and icy glaciers, emerald lakes and hidden valleys - Baltistan ☐

People in Glass Houses...

The greenhouse effect is real and will have major geophysical, economic and social effects, according to CSIRO scientists

Within far less than a lifetime Australia's beaches will disappear and coastlines will be inundated, constantly battered by storms and rising tides.

These predictions were made by scientists at the launching of the *Greenhouse Project Planning for Climate Change*, a national campaign organised by the Commission for the Future and the CSIRO to alert Australians to the dangers ahead.

Dr Graeme Pearman (a climatologist specialising in the study of gases in the atmosphere) said a rapid build-up of "greenhouse gases" will cause sea levels and global temperatures to rise by up to *four degrees Celsius by the year 2030*. This is backed up by US and European studies.

Half a Metre Already

Professor Alistair Gilmour, Director of the Environmental and Urban Studies Centre at Macquarie University, says the sea level has *already* risen by about one millimetre a year over the past fifty years.

The greenhouse effect is caused by huge amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂) being injected into the atmosphere, half of which is due to coal and oil-fired power stations and cars (atmospheric CO₂ has risen at an average of 2% every five years since the Industrial Revolution).

The other half is caused by chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs, rising at 5% per year) from spray cans, polystyrene and refrigerators; and large amounts of methane from millions of cattle, mass rice cultivation, deforestation and slash and burn agriculture.

These gases absorb radiation from sunlight reflected off the Earth's surface and act as a blanket or greenhouse around the Earth to trap heat. The greenhouse effect was regarded with skepticism by much of the scientific community, but Dr Pearman's new data has convinced most scientists that climatic change is inevitable.



Early 1980s rates of atmospheric and temperature changes predicted for the next sixty years are now being projected over a time scale of only 30 years, Dr Pearman said.

"The impact of these changes will be so wide reaching they will cover all areas of daily activity including water supplies, drainage, manufacturing and agriculture," he said.

A year ago Dr Pearman and other CSIRO climatologists urged Federal and State governments to begin planning urgently for a rapid warming of Australia's climate.

All this began occurring after the start of the Industrial Revolution, when greenhouse gases began multiplying at an exponential rate - as shown by analysis of Antarctic ice core samples. In 1850 the CO₂ level in the atmosphere amounted to 265 parts per million (ppm).

The atmospheric CO₂ level has already reached over 340 ppm today, the highest it has been for hundreds of thousands of years. And it is expected to increase to 600 ppm by the year 2050 - the highest level for millions of years.

"Put quite bluntly, people are going to have to decide if they are going to continue to burn fossil fuels and drown Melbourne and London, or if they are going to change their energy use"

- Science Minister Barry O. Jones

Theory is Fact

Over the last five years a huge Australian research effort has confirmed that levels of CO₂, methane and CFCs are rising, lifting average world temperatures by 3 degrees Celsius in the next two decades and 5 degrees within fifty years. Dr Pearman said it was no longer a question of *whether* the greenhouse effect would occur, but *when*.

Greenhouse Delays Ice Age?

We are now at the end of a 10,000 year 'interglacial' period between ice ages. It's interesting to note that this is the longest interglacial for hundreds of thousands of years, which means we are now well overdue for another ice age.

It's quite possible the greenhouse effect has held off the next glacial phase - but increases in overall cloud cover caused by more evaporation may eventually cause the next ice age; world cloud cover currently averages around 50%, but a greenhouse-caused increase to 75% would reflect more infra-red radiation (heat) into space, precipitating rapid cooling.

Early rises in sea level will be primarily due to the fact that water expands when heated - world sea levels will rise by at least 0.8 metres by the year 2015 as a result of this thermal expansion alone. As the upper layers of the oceans warm, their surface temperatures are likely to have even more profound effects on our climate.

Australian Atlantis?

The greenhouse effect could be very serious for Australia. A mere one-metre rise in sea level would submerge the main street of Cairns and result in the disappearance of large areas of Australian beaches, Dr Pearman warned.

In low-lying areas (such as Adelaide, the Gold Coast or Parramatta), any sea level increase would have a serious impact on beaches, marinas, coastlines and houses based around rivers, storm water drains and networks of canals linked to the ocean.

Tides may also rise markedly, eroding more of the fertile coastlands. The vast bulk of Australia's population (and sewage system) is clustered around the coast.

Many popular beaches, including Bondi and Manly, will be submerged and washed away, according to Professor Eric Bird, senior lecturer in geography at Melbourne University.

"There would be very little in the way of beach left, because a metre sea level rise would simply erode them away", he said after the *Greenhouse Project* launch week, which attracted more than seventy scientists and academics.

Rainfall Redistributed

Rainfall patterns, water catchments and agricultural systems are about to undergo marked changes in many parts of the world. The CSIRO's calculations indicate that rainfall will increase in most of eastern and

northern Australia and in some agricultural areas (rainfall in Australia has increased by 25% in the last 25 years).

But Mr Brian Tucker, chief of the CSIRO's Division of Atmospheric Research, warned that south-western Australia (one of our major wheat-producing areas and already at marginal rainfall levels) will probably receive even less rain and the wheat belt could be pushed back towards the shrinking coast.

"Unfortunately, but quite understandable in view of Australia's chronic trade balance problems, the CSIRO has responded to government exhortations and has transferred more and more resources into applied science with the prospect of short-term commercial payoff," Dr Tucker said.

"It is being increasingly recognised that there really are major climatic problems requiring solutions that are of great importance to every single Australian."

He reported that to save about one million dollars, his division's budget had been cut by 20% in real terms in the past two years.

Changes

The CSIRO study says summer rainfall will increase as winters become shorter and temperate regions take on a more tropical appearance. Australia will be hit by the ravages of more and longer floods and droughts. The bushfire danger will increase as weeds become uncontrollable. Australian snowfalls (and the ski industry) may disappear altogether.

"We're going to have troubles with low-lying areas on the coast in years to come as it is, but we shouldn't be developing land near the coast in NSW or anywhere else when we know there's sea level rises on the cards", said Professor Bird.

"People in NSW should be concerned at the potential loss of sandy surf beaches and the potential floodline in low-lying areas around Sydney," said senior CSIRO research scientist, Professor Barry Pittock.

"The critical thing with a one-metre sea rise is when you have a big storm with onshore winds during the high tide. It's a combination which usually causes local flooding and



that extra metre of water is going to mean a hell of a difference."

Indonesia is expected to dry out along with West Irian and Papua New Guinea; much of the present African, Soviet and North American grain belts may become desert, as frozen Siberia thaws. Cyclones will progress further from the equator, adding to the erosion of coastlines.

Plant Growth

Some good news - crops will grow faster in warmer, wetter conditions and plants will receive a further boost from increased carbon dioxide levels. Not only crops will benefit, however. Weeds are expected to grow beyond control and compete with agricultural land. Increased CO₂ promotes more photosynthesis; this has long been known to botanists and greenhouse farmers.

Researchers from the University of Arizona, measuring cross-sections from aged bristlecone pines in the western US, have found that the trees' growth rates have roughly doubled since 1850.

Since growing plants incorporate atmospheric carbon into their tissues, stepped-up growth would slow the increase of atmospheric CO₂, in turn delaying climatic changes from the greenhouse effect.

After the Flood

It's now known that 10,000 years ago, at the end of the last ice age (when substantially larger amounts of glacial and polar ice than exist today melted very quickly), sea levels rose by up to one hundred metres in a few generations. It becomes

apparent that the inundation of 'mythic' Atlantis - dated by Plato at what we now know was the end of the last ice age - might be as real as Noah's Flood and Gilgamesh's Deluge.

From Sri Lanka to Micronesia to the Caribbean, submerged stone ruins strewn across the planet's continental shelves are invariably sited above a depth of 300 feet - mute testaments to a 'forgotten' prehistoric trading civilization based around the planet's coasts.

We have far less ice on the planet today, but some estimates of sea level rises over the next two generations outstrip those of the CSIRO.

International glaciologists warn that the greenhouse effect may cause a rise of up to nine metres if an Antarctic meltdown begins, according to Science Minister Barry Jones.

"Put quite bluntly, people are going to have to decide if they are going to continue to burn fossil fuels and drown Melbourne and London, or if they are going to change their energy use," he said earlier this year. The effects that massive shifts in

global water redistribution may have on stresses in the Earth's crust has remained largely unexplored, as has the effect of salinisation on water tables.

What to Do?

Each of us can use less polystyrene and plastic wrapping, CFC-propellant spraycans, grid-fed electricity, petrol and bulk freezers; industry liberates more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than individuals and must be discouraged in any way possible.

Dr Irving Mintzer, author of a US World Resources Institute computer study of global warming, says the greenhouse effect can be considerably reduced if governments take concerted action. He recommends a tax on fossil fuels to fund solar energy development and that we limit CFC production.

"We have to start thinking how we can organise our economy and our civilization so that we're not producing these burnt fuels in the atmosphere and that's going to be a hard one", said Dr Bird.


Professor Pearman believes that governments must make economic, social and environmental planning changes now to circumvent potential disaster.

With two colleagues, Macquarie University professor Gilmour is preparing maps showing effects on the Australian coastline. They are also analysing the need for sea walls to protect roads, housing and farmlands near coastal wetlands which will extend inland as sea levels rise.

Professor Pittock said the only way to save the coastline would be to build massive sea walls or continually pump sand onto the beaches - an impressive job-creation project!

The findings of the *Greenhouse Project* will be presented at a five day conference from November 30th, organised by the Federal Science Department's Commission for the Future.

People should feel free to write a letter to Barry Jones, Minister for Science, House of Representatives, Canberra, ACT, 2600.

- Learn to swim  - R.A.

The Future's So Bright...

The UN has arranged an historic pact in Montreal, ratified by twenty-four countries, to cut the use of chemicals which are destroying the Earth's ozone layer. The chemicals - chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) - must be virtually eliminated from the biosphere to prevent catastrophic changes in climate, mass blindness, crop damage, human immune system breakdown and dramatic increases in skin cancer.

The first such agreement in history calls for countries to freeze and then halve CFC consumption by the late 1990s. The agreement, over a year in the making, has been hampered by chemical corporations (CFC production is a \$A2.75 billion-a-year industry) and bickering governments.

What's the Problem?

CFCs are increasing in the atmosphere by 5% per year. Upon reaching the upper atmosphere they slowly break

down, and the chlorine they release breaks down ozone, a naturally occurring unstable form of oxygen.

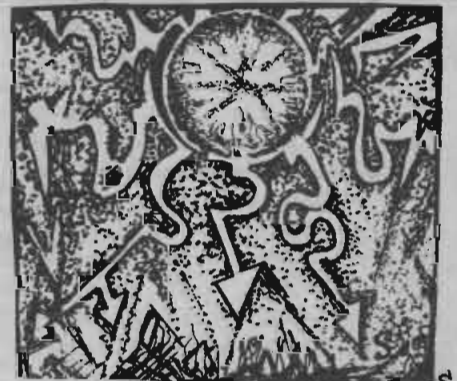
Ozone stops 90% of ultraviolet radiation from the Sun, dangerous to land and marine plants and animals, from reaching the Earth's surface.

Holes have been opening in the ozone layer since 1979 over Antarctica and since at least 1986 over Norway, expanding each spring and summer and diminishing with autumn.

CFCs are man-made, inert, odourless, non-toxic, non-flammable chemicals which don't break down in the lower atmosphere - but of the hundreds of CFCs, three are particularly dangerous. Most widely used are CFC 11 and CFC 12: as coolants in refrigerators and air conditioners, plastic packaging foams and propellants in aerosol cans. Thirdly, CFC 113 is used as a solvent in the electronics industry.

More to Come

The ozone layer is depleted and thinning already, but the CFCs produced in the last decade have still not reached the upper atmosphere - CFCs persist in the atmosphere for at least a century. They are also responsible for



half the global greenhouse effect.

Dr Paul Newman, a visiting US ozone layer expert from Applied Research Corporation, presented evidence to the CSIRO's Division of Atmospheric Research in Aspendale, Victoria, that the hole is linked to a pronounced cooling in the stratosphere about 20 kilometres above Antarctica. Dr Newman believes that this spring the hole in the ozone layer will be smaller than last year, and that there may be some link with the El Nino-Southern Oscillation phenomenon (which caused the severe drought of 1982-83).

Continued Next Page

Chemical Genocide

While all such first steps are laudable, the 'ozone pact' simply requires nations to freeze production of CFCs at their *current massive levels* for years; these levels will then be halved by the late 1990s. Now that the consequences are known, continuing to jettison these 'trace gases' into the atmosphere is a criminal act equivalent to genocide.

The chlorine in CFCs is destroying the ozone layer - *one kilo of chlorine in the stratosphere will destroy 10 tonnes of ozone*. Australia produces around 13,000 tonnes of CFC 11 and CFC 12 a year, but our industries are voluntarily reducing use of CFCs by almost two-thirds.

Cancer Cause

Maverick British scientist Fred Hoyle has observed that the human genes responsible for making melanin - the skin pigment which protects our lymphatic, or immune system, from UV - can make people far darker than they need to be for today's levels of solar radiation.

Pointing out that genes do not evolve unless they're needed, he theorises that in the past, natural phenomena (like comets) have depleted the ozone layer and Homo Sapiens has had to adapt to greater levels of UV than reach us at present.

But for every 1% reduction in ozone over temperate Australia, UV radiation reaching the ground will increase by 2%, resulting in a twelve-fold increase in melanoma and skin cancers.

Malignant melanoma has increased in the US by 83% in the last seven years and Dr Darrel Rigel of the New York University Medical Centre, who released these figures, warned that sharp increases in UV mean that wearing sunscreens and staying in the shade will eventually become useless for avoiding skin cancer.

Alternatives

There are alternatives to many of the dangerous CFCs in production. CFC 22, for instance, does not damage the ozone layer. Recent advances in commercial and domestic refrigeration, including new helium-based coolants, can replace dangerous CFCs. Only those which are used on human skin (insect repellent and hairsprays) cannot be easily replaced.

Governments must outlaw dangerous CFCs completely; you and I must use *no more* CFC aerosol cans, polystyrene wrapping or unnecessary refrigeration.

Unfortunately, only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the summer sun ☼

- R.A.

In Orbit

SUMMER ASTROLOGICAL FORECAST with Victor Voets

Hello Fellow Humans!

I hope all is well as the imbalances correct themselves. Relationships, business, finances, health - it's a fine time to clear out the excesses and rely upon the permanent and essential.

November begins with an intensity of purging and isolation, an important time to clean out the cobwebs. Energies concentrate upon friendly communications despite the fact that confusion seems to reign over mental clarity. Health and accounting areas of life remain in confusion until November 23rd, though there will be a surge of determination to get bookwork done and pay the bills. Become more decisive from November 18th.

November 25th sees the fiery red planet Mars move into the incisive sign of Scorpio so there will be a lot more aggression and assertiveness from then until January 9th, probably even more sexual offences. On a global level November is quite a destructive month, especially when Mars moves into Scorpio. We haven't had much peace and will have less of it then.

The desire for freedom and responsibility becomes more restrictive from early afternoon November 28th as Venus moves into Capricorn. A fondness for old films, alcohol, drugs and beautiful old furniture and clothes then comes into evidence for a few weeks.

November and early December become the months when a total change in attitude develops in the psyche of the planet. A tendency towards a headstrong belligerence and cantankerousness which has dominated the scene (though it has been counterbalanced by an indecisive seeking for diplomacy) will move over as the tug-of-war begins between selfless humanitarian service and the rational intellectual defences.

Underlying everything which takes place throughout the next year and a half, the best developments take place when we begin to allow ourselves to attune to the universal mind so that spiritual hierarchies can help and lead us out of a cesspit of intellectual egocentricity.

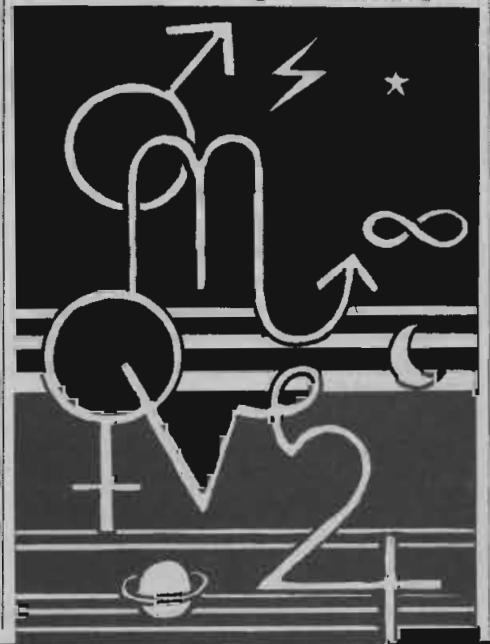
Confusions in business, travel, finances, legalities and independences dissolve from late December 15th as Jupiter, the planet of luck and benevolence, turns direct after

retrograding since August 18th. A seeking for freedom, movement, a wish and need to put personal affairs aside so that we can enjoy releasing our emotions in groups (without being oversensitive) will guide us after the strains of conservative freedom and independence of December 16th-19th.

Relationships become more detached as a frustrating inner tension sees partnerships broken or transformed around December 31st-January 1st. A striving for challenges, independence and initiative begins sunset January 17th as we seek to bring about decisive changes in our lives. This run will continue until sunset February 17th when we begin the Chinese Year of the Earth Dragon. More on that in the next NEXUS.

Until November 23rd, illnesses are likely relate to a stifling of feelings, or suppression. These could manifest as sores around the genital region. Problems in communications until late December 15th could make themselves evident through faulty diet and an attraction to sweet things, causing liver problems. Breathing problems - shortness of breath - is likely until November 6th or between February 2nd-23rd 1988. Make yourself understood, be succinct and not long-winded in communication ☼

Love and Peace - Victor Voets
Astrologer-Numerologist



Hypnosis and the Mind

Facts and Fallacies

by Dean Winter



Many people have tried to define just what hypnosis is, most with only a limited degree of success. For something that is so obviously able to tap quite profound areas of our minds it is both remarkably simple and remarkably elusive.

The definitions I have heard range from the standard "it's a state of deep relaxation" and "an inward focus of attention" through "a putting aside of the critical faculty" and "misdirected attention plus belief plus expectation" to "there is no such thing as hypnosis" and "all communication is hypnosis".

Milton Erickson, a modern day master of hypnosis, defined it as: "The induction of special states of awareness, circumscribed in character, not easily intruded upon, and dependent upon the subject's own total experiential life, as selected by the subject and controlled and directed by the hypnotist." And this man was a master of words! No wonder they say "it's a bit like sleep". It's not really, except to the outside observer.

So just what is it? Easy to do; difficult to talk about. One of the facts about the mind is that to relax it, it is not necessary to think of *nothing*, which is actually very difficult to do (just ask any meditator). Instead, the mind will relax when you think of just *one* thing.

So concentration (not the forceful energetic type) or focusing of the mind upon one thing, be it object or idea, plus relaxation of the physical body gives hypnosis.

Hallucination

An example of the incongruities and difficulties in defining hypnosis is the phenomenon known as *negative hallucination*, or not seeing something that is there (as compared to *positive hallucination* - seeing something that is not there). Now *negative hallucination* is supposed to be one of the test criteria for assessing the depth of a trance, and is in fact an indication of a quite deep state of hypnosis.

Have you ever tried to go out somewhere, and no matter how many times you search the house, top to bottom, looking in places no human has ever eyeballed before, you still can't find the car keys, only to have them turn up an hour later in the middle of the table you are absolutely certain you searched thoroughly at least six times? This is an example of *negative hallucination* and if it hasn't happened to you, it's pretty common. *This means, by all reliable criteria, that you were in a deep state of hypnosis at the time. It didn't feel like it, did it?*

So, what is hypnosis? Basically, we don't know. We know how to do it, but not really what it is. It does seem that one of the main activities of our conscious mind is the critical faculty - that is, the ability to evaluate information, weigh it up, check it for flaws and compare it to our past experiences. And it is this quality of our mind that we put aside when we go into hypnosis.

Consciousness

Another of the functions or roles of the conscious mind, it seems, is to keep informa-

tion out. Consciousness would appear to be a very selective filter - somewhat like an iris - that just opens a bit every now and then and if you are around at the right time and have information with the right key you can get in.

Although I use the words conscious, subconscious and unconscious, I feel these terms are misleading. They seem to imply that there are two (or even three) separate minds with the other-than-conscious ones being full of nasties, remote, unknown and maybe better left alone. And it almost leads to thoughts like; "I wonder if I can have it surgically removed, I'm doing fine without it anyway." I prefer to consider the mind, wonderful organ that it is, as being one single thing. After all, if we have more than one mind, I wonder where we left the others!

Consciousness I imagine as a sort of internal torch in the warehouse of our emotions and memory banks. Whatever the torch is shining upon is what we are thinking of at the time. If you want to think of something else, move the torch.

Now in this cavern of mazes, there are, as you'd expect, areas we don't go to and areas we only visit occasionally. It doesn't mean we can't, only that we don't. Maybe we've lost the map or forgotten how to get there, or maybe we are afraid of something there and so avoid it - a bit like Redfern station at night.

Memory

Nevertheless, we can (with proper guidance, encouragement or desire) recover any and every experience or memory we've ever had. But you won't find them by wandering around on the tracks you've worn in the carpet in the foyer of your mind. Those cupboards only contain the programmes, lollies and the fire extinguisher, as you already know.

Another problem with understanding hypnosis is the modern urban myth that hypnosis is like that practised by *Mandrake the Magician* or what *Obi-wan Kenobi* did to the trainee *Darth Vaders* in *Star Wars*.

While I don't rule out the possibility of this level of magical influence existing, I don't think it could be considered hypnosis as practised today except in the loosest of definitions.

Actually I'll partially retract these last two paragraphs and say that good and profound hypnosis relies at least in part on the

ability of the hypnotist to weave a spell that the hypnotee believes and can enter.

Another myth, or maybe fear, is that when you are "under" hypnosis you are somewhat absent, that your mind has gone away. This is just not true. That is known as *being dead*. If anything, you are *more* aware of what is going on around you than normal, only you just don't care.

Also if the hypnotist should up and die, as if to spite you just after guiding you into a trance, you wouldn't be locked up there forever. You'd either bring yourself out when you realised he'd been pretty quiet for a while, or you'd go to sleep and awake when you weren't tired any more, just as you always do in the morning.

This is due to the fact that all a hypnotist actually does is talk you into doing things to yourself. In a very real sense there is no such thing as hetero-hypnosis (or "hypnosis"), only self-hypnosis. The best way to learn self hypnosis is to be hypnotised a number of times; not only because the hypnotist knows how to do it and you don't, but also because it frees you to focus all your attention on the object at hand and the hypnotist remembers where you are, what to do next, what you are

going to do when you get there - and what the time is.

Affirmations

One great use for hypnosis is *affirmations*, so let's look at them. First they need to be clearly and simply worded, as we understand better at a deeper level if information is presented simply. Next, they need to be positive in nature because our brains can't actually cope with negatives.

To think of *not x* we first immediately think of *x* and all we end up doing is affirming what we don't want. Hence an affirmation of "*I am going to stop smoking*" is probably more damaging than helpful. "*I am going to breathe freely and easily*" or even "*I am going to be \$15 a week richer*" is much more likely to result in quitting.

Once you're clear about what you want and can express it, sit somewhere comfortable and quiet where you won't be disturbed, maybe unplug the phone. Put your attention inside yourself, e.g., pay attention to your breathing, or feel the muscle tone in your body. Take a few deep breaths and exhale slowly, while relaxing your body as much as possible.

It's often helpful to imagine being somewhere very peaceful and calm, such as lying on the sand at a beautiful deserted beach, enjoying the feeling of the sun gently warming your skin with the slow and rhythmic sound of the waves washing up the beach, hissing as it disappears into the sand and - hey, come back here!

Use the beach if you like - or anywhere else. When you are fully relaxed, recite your affirmation with as much conviction as you can put into it without strain; e.g., "*I am an intelligent and valuable human being*" and really believe it, mean it, go "yeah" to yourself. Keep relaxing and affirming and do this for as long as you like. Twenty minutes is excellent.

When you've had enough and feel that your affirmation really is true, prepare to come out of the trance. This is quite easy. Just start thinking that you are going to get up soon. Anticipate feeling awake and refreshed. It may be helpful to decide to count to five and when you get to five you'll feel fully awake. Count to five, awake and stretch. Although this is something you can do on your own, you can achieve much greater depths with the aid of someone experienced. ∞

AROMATHERAPY AROMAT

Re-emergence of an ancient healing art

Aromatherapy is a term which defines the medical and cosmetic uses of essential oils, gums and resins of plants. These may be used externally as massage oils, creams, lotions, baths, poultices, inhalants, perfumes



Essential oils may be found in all parts of a plant, depending on the type of plant and the time of day or year, e.g., in the roots of *calamus*, in the flowers of *lavender*, in the leaves of *thyme*, in the bark of *sandalwood*, in the resin of *myrrh*, in the rinds of fruit, as in lemon and lime, and in the berries as in *juniper*.

Essential oils tend to have an effect both locally (at the site of application) and systemically (throughout the body), whether they are taken internally or used externally. They are absorbed throughout the body tissues and are finally excreted from four to twelve hours after their use. Their effect is also long-lasting - a sort of 'sustained release' effect.

Millenia of Use

The historical use of aromatic oils and resins goes back many thousands of years. In China, incense was burned to purify the atmosphere and rid the environment of evil spirits; in India incense was and is used in temples to sanctify the devotions; in Mexico, incenses were used in rituals to induce trance-like states in participants to make them more receptive to their role as sacrifices to the gods; in Northern Europe, fragrant oils were used by the Druids in healing and religious practices; the Greeks and Romans used essential oils and fragrant

herbs in all aspects of their daily lives; much of their knowledge came from the Egyptians who were, without doubt, the masters in the Art of Aromatherapy.

Even as recently as the Middle Ages in Europe, fragrant herbs were known to possess special healing properties by virtue of their fragrances and were burned in the streets to counteract the odour and ill effects of the poor hygiene of the times. During the time of the Great Plague this method was also used to disinfect the air.

How It Works

It is thought that the size and shape of the odiferous molecule is of great significance in the chemical perception of odours.

The odoriferous molecule possesses a great number of free electrons which influence physiological functions because they can combine with other molecules in the body.

Another theory is that odoriferous molecules have a particular vibration which is perceived by the olfactory hairs. A further theory of how plant essences work is based on Filatob's theory of "biogen stimulation" as outlined by Dr Jean Valnet in his book 'The Practice of Aromatherapy'. It is explained as follows:

"...a living tissue ...separated from its organism and kept in conditions of 'suffer-

ing' ...will produce certain substances of resistance in its struggle to survive ...Introduced into a deficient organism, these substances will re-activate the failing vital processes, and, strengthening the cellular metabolism, improve the various physiological functions, at the same time fighting infections and stimulating the regeneration of tissue". ('A Multitude of Uses' - Valnet).

Dr Valnet's own opinion is that it's the pH and electrical resistance of plant essences which explain why and how they work.

According to Valnet, essences generally have an acid pH and a high resistance. This means acidity does not favour rapid multiplication of microbes, and the high resistance of essences discourages the spread of infections and toxins. The higher the resistance, the less conductive to electrical transmission a solution is - and the purer the solution, the less conductive it is to electricity.

Remedies

The most outstanding property of essences is their antiseptic/antigenic property. This is well documented in Dr Valnet's book *The Practice of Aromatherapy*. He discusses at length the antiseptic properties of essential oils in relation to *meningococcus*, *staphylococcus* and *typhus* bacillus. He specifically names the essences of cloves as toxic to *tuberculosis* bacillus and notes that even at a strength of 1% dilution it is three to four times more active than phenol.

Essence of *thyme*, on account of its Thymol content, kills *typhus* bacillus, *epidemic dysentery* bacillus, *streptococcus*, *diphtheria* bacillus and *tuberculosis* bacillus. Other essences which have equally striking antiseptic properties are those of lemon, sandalwood, German chamomile and cinnamon.

"Essential oils are especially valuable as antiseptics because their aggression towards microbial germs is matched by their total harmlessness to tissue" - Valnet. He also says that the human body does not seem to become accustomed to aromatherapy in the way it does to synthetic medications, where the medication becomes no longer effective. This 'habituation' is called TOLERANCE.

The human body becomes habituated to everything which is toxic to it. A good example of this is in the over-use of aspirin in the Western World. Figures of aspirin sales in the US average 100 aspirin tablets per adult per year.

HERAPY AROMATHERAPY

by Sue O'Neill

Another good example is that of antibiotic use. Dr Valnet states that during World War II, "10 million units of antibiotic (was) enough in those days to save about 60 legs". Today, a patient requires "several million units daily from 3 to 20 days for a feverish condition like bronchitis or simple nasal catarrh". He compares this last example to the use of essential oil of eucalyptus, cinnamon, cloves or pine which could deal with these conditions in 24 to 48 hours.

He gives many more examples of tolerance formed to certain drugs in the treatment of venereal disease and notes the recent recurrence of venereal disease today despite the many hundreds of antibiotics now produced.

Primal Response

Essences themselves are very powerful therapeutic agents and should always be used with care and in moderation. It is known that a part of the brain called the *Limbic System* is affected by fragrances. This system is the most primitive part of the brain and is related directly to instinctive and primal emotional responses.

Aromatherapy is a valuable adjunct to psycho-analysis and hypnotherapy - the effects of the oils cannot be blocked by the conscious mind and have immediate effect. For example, vanilla oil will bring up long-forgotten memories, cypress oil is of great benefit to those suffering grief, lavender gives feelings of security and comfort, and rose oil balances the emotions and brings peace.

Essential oils, not being disregarded by scientists in the same way as herbs, have been more thoroughly tested over the last 150 years and this has indicated their qualities and usefulness, especially as antiseptics. However, along with herbs, they were disregarded in the wave of enthusiasm for synthetics which arose in the early 20th century.

France and Italy appear to have led the way in the research of the medicinal attributes of essential oils with such scientists and chemists as Rene-Maurice Gattefosse. His research was initially confined to that of the cosmetic uses of essences. However, as a result of an explosion in his laboratory which badly burnt one of his hands, he became truly aware of the antiseptic and healing properties of plant essences.

The human body becomes habituated to everything which is toxic to it



Burns

At the time of receiving the burn he immersed the injured hand in lavender oil and noted that it healed at a phenomenal rate with no infection and no scarring. His research led him to conclude that these natural substances should be used in their whole, unadulterated form - quite a radical statement for a chemist of his time.

In 1938 Gattefosse published an article relating the progress of a friend of his who had an aromatherapy clinic in Los Angeles. He cites remarkable cures of skin cancer, gangrene and osteomalacia. We know from present day research and experience that the essential oil of *Jasmine* is indicated for conditions such as impotence, frigidity, uterine disorders, depression, dysmenorrhoea and skin care. It is also used as an anti-depressant, aphrodisiac, galactagogue, parturient, uterine tonic and sedative. *Frankincense* is suggested for the treatment of gonorrhoea, haemorrhage, leucorrhoea, metorrhagia and spermatorrhoea.

Another great researcher into the uses of essential oils was Madame Maury, wife of the homoeopath Dr Maury and a renowned chemist in her own right. She formed a method of treatment using essential oils on a medico-cosmetic therapy based on massage. She published a book in 1964 called *'The Secret of Life and Youth'*. Her knowledge was based on that of ancient India, China and Egypt.

Madame Maury found that aromatherapy encourages the reproduction of skin cells and restores the elasticity of muscle tissue. She recognised that aromatherapy offers a wider potential than is generally realised because essential oils can be absorbed by the body through the skin, which is effectively the body's largest organ. They are then distributed rapidly around the body with a direct healing effect on the internal organs and muscles.

In 1970 a study of *lemon oil* showed that it had an expectorant action on the lungs due to its tendency to stimulate mucus secretion in that organ. Today there are few seriously practising aromatherapists. In Europe there are probably more than elsewhere.

Aromatherapy is an exciting, safe and effective health care system, simple and easy to use. In the next issue we'll look at specific oils and their medicinal and cosmetic uses and simple home uses of these wonderful aromatic substances.

ALOE VERA

Nature's Ancient Magic

For centuries the *Aloe Vera* plant has been used for its medicinal and cosmetic purposes. Romans, Greeks, Algerians, Moroccans, Tunisians, Arabians, Indians and Chinese have all documented the use of this variety of Aloe.

The earliest record of *Aloe Vera* use is a 1500 B.C. Egyptian papyrus listing many medicinal uses of the plant. Myth has it that Cleopatra attributed her irresistible beauty and charm to the Aloe. Dioscorides, author of the famed *Greek Herbal* in the first century A.D., made a detailed and lengthy report of the many applications of *Aloe Vera*. Internally and externally, the plant was regarded as having no end to the ailments it could help - stomach disorders, headaches, insomnia, haemorrhoids, burns and sunburn, to name a few.

Modern Researchers

Rodney M. Stockton, a US chemical engineer, suffered severe sunburn while holidaying in Florida. When friends applied the plant to his burns and he experienced instant relief and rapid healing, he was amazed. Moving to Florida, he started working on the problem of stabilizing Aloe Vera's healing gel. In 1959 he developed a cream from the plant which could change a deep thermal burn to a minor second degree burn within 48 hours, by rapidly regenerating the body's tissues. Most importantly, the healing took place without gross scarring.

Many countries are studying the *Aloe Vera* plant, but the leader by far is the Soviet Union, whose research into its healing properties have spanned thirty years. They have discovered that some of the properties of *Aloe Vera* are



likened to a mixture of antibiotic, astringent, coagulating agents and pain and scar inhibitors. The Russian research teams list numerous diseases and ailments the Aloe is attributed to help.

Many *Aloe Vera* products are on Australian shelves today, ranging from pure juice to hair/body/skin care creams and soaps. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not specifically approved *Aloe Vera* as a cure for any ailment other than minor first aid, but the plant is widely known for its non-toxic, harmless properties and no side effects have been recorded from its use.

SOME FIRST AID APPLICATIONS BURNS AND SUNBURN

If available, pick a fresh leaf and split it down the middle and apply locally to the burn, repeating the process frequently. A 99% pure gel is available in a tube dispenser from health food shops, or juice can be sprayed on painful areas.

Increased ultraviolet radiation in southerly latitudes makes this handy addition to a first aid kit a must.

CUTS AND WOUNDS

Clean the area, apply pulp from the leaf into the wound and bandage tightly. Soak whole area in Aloe juice frequently.

SCRAPES AND ABRASIONS

Clean area and apply split leaf and slide gently over grazed area. Or use Aloe juice in pump applicator and spray the affected area.

STINGS

A split leaf applied immediately to the area will bring relief - or you can use a cream or gel.

ACNE

Scrub skin with Aloe Vera soap, then apply fresh leaf gel or gel. Repeat this process three times a day.

Ancient cultures knew and used *Aloe Vera* for centuries and today's chemists still strive to decipher its properties. Thanks to recent research there are many books available on how to grow and care for this wondrous succulent plant, its medicinal and cosmetic uses, recipes and first aid treatments.

- Nissa

Hellerwork

"Structural bodywork is different in that, in addition to releasing tension, it realigns the body with gravity"
- Joseph Heller.

Hellerwork is a bodywork system designed to recondition and realign the body's connective tissue systems, bringing it to a balanced, painless and tension-free state.

Born in 1940, Joseph Heller fled Poland with his family and emigrated to Los Angeles in 1957, where he earned a degree in mathematics from Cal Tech.

After ten years as an aerospace engineer he realised that people were far more interesting than machines and started attending encounter groups, workshops and a Roling course.

It was from Roling that he extended and branched out into his own system of *Hellerwork*.

Fluid Body

The natural state of the body is to be fluid and "water-like" (human beings are comprised mainly of fluid), to be like the proverbial "bamboo reed that bends in the wind". Hellerwork unlocks the tension that holds us solid and rocklike and prevents us from flowing.

Working on the whole body in stages, deep tissue bodywork is aimed at releasing the *fascia*, the layer of plastic-like tissue that wraps all the muscles and individual muscle fibres. Under optimum conditions the fascia are moist and loose, but most of us carry stresses that appear as 'knots of tension' in our necks, backs and bodies.

This causes the fascia to 'stick', through years of habitual patterns of movement or lack of movement. Muscles get sore, but connective tissue accumulates most of the body's stress, creating pain.

Working With Gravity

Hellerwork seeks to realign the body so that gravity is a *supporting* force rather

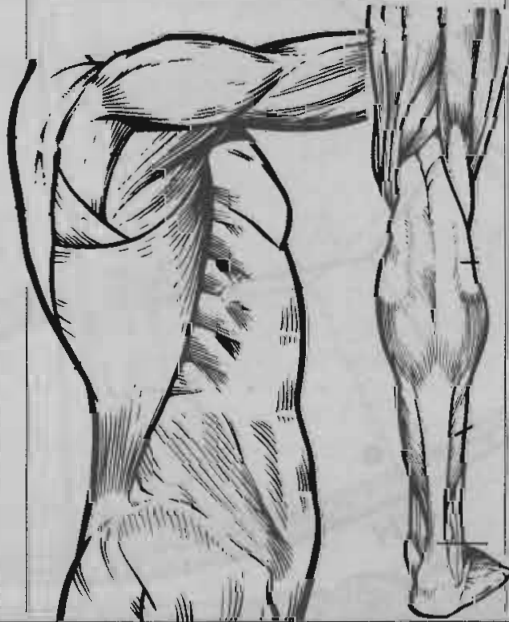
than a *pulling* force.

Incorporating movement education with deep connective tissue bodywork, the system educates and releases your body from years of habitual postural movements. These are ingrained from childhood days of the 'overloaded school bag' - which can pull one shoulder permanently down - to injuries that leave us holding parts of our bodies in protective postures, or the stresses and tension of 20th century living.

Using polaroid photographs to graphically display the realignment your body is undergoing, Hellerwork comprises a series of eleven treatments, one per week. The progressive realignment of your body is checked against the alignment of a stationary pendulum and wall grid each session.

Sessions one to three focus on the surface layers of the body's connective tissue, dealing with issues from infancy and childhood; breathing, standing up and reaching out.

Sessions four to seven are 'core' sessions dealing with the 'intrinsic' muscles that assist in fine, graceful and



fluid motor movement - muscles also fine-tuned by systems like *Tai Chi*.

These core sessions deal with issues from adolescence - control and surrender, holding back feelings and intellectual development.

Sessions eight to eleven are designed to integrate the earlier sessions. Session eleven contains no bodywork but focuses on how to incorporate Hellerwork into your entire life.

Hellerwork movement education makes you profoundly aware of your body's movement patterns.

When consciousness enters into the way you simply sit, stand or walk, for instance, you can easily see that most people have 'out of line' posture and feel this as normal. Movement education helps to re-balance and realign your body.

Attitudes and Emotions

Verbal dialogue is a large part of the Hellerwork system, encouraging you to become aware of the relationship between your attitudes and emotions and how you hold your body.

Becoming aware of your body makes you responsible for it and for your attitudes. You are fully encouraged to talk about any experience, memory, thought or emotion that arises - and with feedback from an understanding and friendly person, unknown tensions surface and fall away.

There are various new healing and bodywork therapies available today from all corners of the Earth, some ancient and some modern. The number of health techniques is immense and the choice is entirely yours.

We are becoming aware that the body needs to be acknowledged as a whole - too often we treat symptoms rather than causes, looking at little bits instead of the complete picture.

Hellerwork is another aspect of integrating the whole of your being into a balanced, healthy machine operating in optimum condition ∞

- Nissa

Life's Search for Life

by John Burke



Earlier in human history there were groups of people who lived outside the mainstream of everyday culture. These people were drawn to concentrate on developing their experience of meaning and wonderment at the action of spirit through matter - the act of life.

They provided various services to the community at large, one of which was healing. They did the repair work for those who damaged themselves during the complex actions of living day to day. By caring for accident victims they became aware of the internal environment of the body. They observed the sacs and tubes, the cords and the bones, the various fluids and the masses of different tissues.

Faced with the prospect of trying to understand the functions of these things in the body they attempted various ways of analysis.

In Northern China, the head abbot of a monastery got one of his monks to meditate on the sac that was connected to the mouth by a tube, and was often seen with half-pulped food in it.

Another monk was told by the abbot to meditate on the fist-sized lump of stuff that sat behind the first sac. This process was continued until there were all these monks sitting around concentrating on each of the major systems in the body.

After some years of doing this, it was noticed that the different organs (or rather, prolonged breath-connected

concentration on them) produced distinctive movements. These were recorded and the movements themselves used as a form of therapy for people with pain or weakness in a particular part of their beings. Later these developed into various systems including Hatha Yoga and Tai-Chi.

In Europe and Eastern China another approach appeared.

A person at the point of death was placed in a sealed container and allowed to decompose. This was repeated many times; sometimes the body was suspended in water, sometimes it was heated, sometimes gently, sometimes vigorously.

Essences and Elements

The different substances that separated out were then collected and studied. It was found that the body was mostly water, but that there were three other types of substances.

There was a highly volatile substance that acted as a solvent and came off at a low body temperature. Another substance seemed to be a lubricant, an oil. The third type was a solid crystalline form.

It was noted that these three "essences", as they became known, were also present in the things we use as food.

It was also seen that these substances could, under various conditions, be gas, fire, liquid or solid.

These are the four elemental states of the essences.

By further experiment it was found that there were twelve basic kinds of "salts" (the crystalline substance that took the most heat to extract). Perhaps an infinite number of different oils, yet there seemed to be only two types of "spirit" (so called because it was the first thing lost at the point of death).

After meditating on this, a picture of our place in the environment was envisaged.

Alcohols

The fine vapours were called alcohol, which means "the evolving essence", or spirit. They were given the symbol ♀ shows the lens of the mind ∪ meeting the universe O while fixed to matter +.

Alcohols are carbon chains with heaps of available potential interactions with prana (hydrogen ions). These ions form the basis of most organic life processes.

Alcohols act as "super soaps" to keep our bodily processes moving. Unfortunately, they are also the easiest lost during cooking.

Sometimes if an accumulation of a particular substance is causing disease, it may be necessary to give the body the correct alcohol. This can be made from a herb rich in the particular substance; or perhaps the impression of the particular potential spirit of the substance - such as a homeopathic nosode.

A nosode is a finely separated impression of the ions of a particular substance.

Once the correct alcohol is supplied, the body can wash out quite amazing amounts of junk.

Oils

Alcohols come off at just below blood temperature, oils come off at or just over blood temperature. Oils are the body's lubricants and storehouses of energies. They were called Sulfur and later Soul,

At last we have amassed enough data to compare past known facts - the intellect - to catch up with the directly experienced but mythically interpreted knowledge of the greatest mystics - the intuition.

It has now been shown that *matter is energy caught up in a spiral weave on itself*. Modern physics even goes so far as to say that this energy is really just a change in pressure in a universal field. Some schools of modern science suggest that this field may even be conscious.

The early Tantric pictures of the lingam and yoni as the basic underlying structure of the universe of *Maya* is now being verified by our materialistic sciences' study of the stars. We now know that the first matter is Hydrogen, and that it does have both a male and female form. The negative ion's extra electron has been seen with modern microscopes as a leading tail, or as the tantricas would have seen it, a phallus. The positive ion shows the complimentary hole structure.

So perhaps its time to look again at some of the basic concepts of the "elders' arts", with our young

sciences' eyes.

To share the experiences of the olden ways (I hesitate to call them religions) with all the skills and openness of a person conditioned to learning and cross-referencing, as our unique renaissance up-bringing has made us, is an amazing and surprisingly lucid experience.

The trick seems to be to be able to allow for the limited cultural references (with little or no technical basis) that the people who worked out or discovered the various systems - from Christian mysticism to yoga and Tai Chi - had to relate their experiences within. They often had overwhelming and sometimes quite bizarre experiences, backed by religious fervour, based on all sorts of moral dilemmas, to create their cultures from.

Often their attempts at depicting the internal structure of things seems naive to our technologically sophisticated scrutiny, just as our materialistic sciences can seem dead and disrespectful to the developed sensitivities of a skilled yogi.

and were given the symbol \triangle which shows the infinitely small dot expanding to the manifested line (at the base of the triangle), being fixed to the cross of matter.

There is a difference between the alkaline alcohols and soaps, and the acid-forming salts and sugars. An alcohol is a spiral of carbon atoms with their free arms catching at all the available extra energetic hydrogen atoms.

Modern science calls these 'negative ions' because they have an extra negative charge - an electron. Yogis who saw them in their meditations thought that the extra spiral of energy made them look masculine and so called them positive. There is no contradiction in this as the scientists were looking at the energy, while the yogis were looking at the form.

As more of the carbon chains' valencies (potential interactions) lock into each other, the substance gains a fixed as well as a volatile nature. It becomes a "loop" of carbon. This can roll on itself to create a slippery, soft, thick substance which can connect the active open chains (alcohol) to the crystal structures that hold the waiting patterns of life.

This makes oil an ideal substance for life to use to develop its potential in our bodies. The oils are our scents and as such form the basis of a whole level of our emotional experiences.

A lot of food processing techniques take out food oils as they tend to allow the food to go rancid.

An oil, then, is a substance that can

move around both types of hydrogen ions, those with placement needs (negative ions, or yang chi) and those that have energy needs (positive ions, or yin chi).

In Alchemic medicines the correct aromatic oils are used to strengthen a link between a physical organ and its source of energy.

Salts

A Salt is a carbon chain that has turned in on itself, locked most of its arms onto itself and crystallised. These substances seek the ions without electrons. These positive ions drag some of the energy out of the crystal structure, which allows it to break down. Once a salt has combined with a positive ion it becomes an acid. The finest of the acids are the living amino acids.

The alchemic symbol for salt is \ominus This shows the infinite spirit \circ fixed on the manifest life within itself, the line of perceived time.

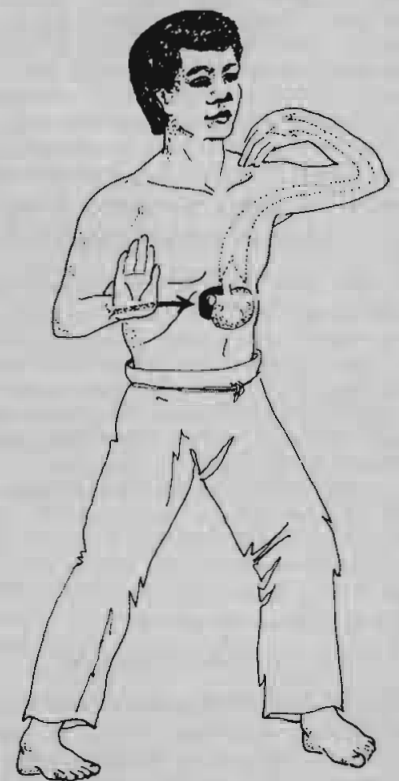
Most chemical synthesising processes wind up with an approximation of a fixed salt. This means that when they are ingested there is no appropriate alcohol to "quicken" the substance, and no oil to allow its assimilation anyhow.

This is why a whole herb, such as Valerian, can undo a lot of the damage done by *Valium*, which is a synthesized salt of the herb.

In Alchemic Medicine, alcohols are used to dislodge build-ups of toxins or to start things moving. The oils are used to nourish, change, stimulate or calm

situations. The salts are then used to tone up the organ and see to it that all the body's energies are reset and realigned.

When all three essences are clear and communicating freely, a state of conscious evolution or "health" is produced.



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Ladies from the Pleiades

It's being described as "the best documented UFO case ever". There are more notes and information, more detailed descriptions provided by witnesses, more and better photographs, more physical evidence and more individual contact events than any other UFO case in history - and the contact is still going on.



Forty nine-year old Eduard (Billy) Meier was lured into forests surrounding his home near Zurich, Switzerland by "an amber-haired spacegirl". She called herself *Semjase* and claimed to be from the stellar cluster of the Pleiades; she looked like a young, blonde Aryan woman. Meier claims he has been in her space craft and flown to the Pleiades, five hundred light years away!

UFO Investigators and scientists working with NASA, IBM, the McDonnell Douglas company and the CIA have been trying since 1975 to prove that photographs, sound recordings and metal samples taken by Eduard Meier of a seven-metre silvery space ship near his Swiss village are fakes.

Instead, they have made this the most authentic UFO case in history. One-armed hermit Billy Meier's photographs, taken in the mountains and above the forests of Hinwil, near Zurich with a primitive camera, are recognized by experts as the best ever daylight shots of a UFO. Spaced over decades, Meier recorded his contacts in hundreds of pages of detailed notes.

Metal Samples

He also gave the scientists a piece of metal which *Semjase* had given him, which she said would confound the experts. The metal fragment was forwarded to Marcel Vogel, crystal expert and research chemist for IBM. He spent hours testing it under IBM's \$250,000 electron microscope. His opinion:

"I cannot explain the type of material. By any known combination of materials I could not put it together myself as a scientist. With any technology that I know of, we could not achieve this on this planet!"

CIA 'Confirmation'

From the beginning, government UFO investigation agencies have, on the one hand, maintained a highly sceptical profile - but on the other they've followed the UFO phenomenon ex-

remely closely.

The following memo, hidden in files since 1950, had to be dragged out of the CIA by UFO groups using the Freedom of Information Act:

"The matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States Government. Flying saucers exist. The entire matter is considered by the United States authorities to be of tremendous significance."

"Not a Fake": NASA

Close contact cases like Meier's saucer present special problems. Leading UFO investigators and NASA scientists were convinced they could show that the Hinwil saucer was one of the most spectacular flying saucer hoaxes of all time. They failed.

They admit it's "not a fake" - but they won't admit it's real! By this reasoning they are not obliged to heed any message of this visitation - it threatens the foundations of science and the modern industrial machine.

To accept that certain people on this planet have been singled out by alien intelligences means we must consider that our planet may have been closely watched for thousands of years. It means that there are intelligences in the universe superior to our own. It means that the barrier called the speed of light is a mental barrier of our own making!

Stellar Message

The mythologies of many nations, including China and Egypt, contain references to the influence of the Pleiades. Legends of pre-Incan Peru and from the Navaho refer to 'gods' visiting Earth from the Pleiades.

Semjase told Meier 'they' had picked him out as a contact on Earth when he was five years old because they needed a sympathetic human to pass on their warning to the governments of the world against their hell-bent-on-destruction policies.

It had happened to their planet, but they had survived, according to *Semjase*, and they did not want it to happen to Earth.

Some perspective on this "best documented UFO case ever"; given that we have been visited - and the CIA are even accepting it - how should we relate now to the stars? Well, the curious thing about 'Pleiades contact'

is that it is not be the first, in ancient times or modern.

Out on a Limb over Maya
Just a few months ago we had the same message being sent to us by another beautiful young blonde woman, ostensibly from the Pleiades and with 'magical' powers - this time in the televised version of Shirley Maclaine's *Out on a Limb*, which Ms Maclaine states is factual.

At this point we'll point out a silly synchronicity; the spacegirl's name in that encounter was *Maya*, pronounced the same as *Meier*, our man from Hinwil. A little research shows that *Maia* is the name of one of the stars in the Pleiades constellation! There is a cryptic message somewhere in all these synchronicities. *Maya* is also the Hindu Goddess of Illusion, incidentally - and the demigoddess *Maia*, after whom the star is named, was said to kidnap mortals...

The nebula-veiled stellar cluster of the Pleiades is still in the process of formation and regarded by some to be incapable of having life-bearing planets at this time - however, the region holds some three thousand stars. And in the Meier case the proof is there - at least, she told him she was from the Pleiades...

In September this year, it was all made public by Gary Kinder in his book *Light Years*.

Local Sightings

Let's give thought to some recent events in Victoria.

There were numerous sightings of a UFO about 95km north of Melbourne one night last September near the Puckapunyal Army Base. The Kerstakes, a Puckapunyal family, reported to the police they had seen a craft which looked like a multi-tiered wedding cake. The police told them that what they'd actually seen was a secret weapon being tested by the military. But before you appreciate the humour of the local constabulary - the people of Puckapunyal saw a military convoy rolling through town at about nine o'clock that night.

The military denied ever being in the area. An Aviation Department spokesman says there were no radar contacts in the area, nor any military aircraft operating out of Puckapunyal Army Base ∞

Scientists groping for the origins of AIDS have proposed that it originated in Africa in the form of an African green monkey virus which crossed the species barrier to humans. This theory diverts attention away from Europe and the USA, where for the past forty years biologists have been blindly playing around with primate viruses.

It is now generally agreed by most virologists that the AIDS human immune-system virus (HIV) is related to the monkey virus STLV-III, which was discovered as recently as 1983 and is now known to infect up to 80% of African green monkeys.

People infected with the AIDS virus actually produce antibodies against proteins of STLV-III, since that virus forms part of human HIV.

Mutations

Viruses can mutate when exposed to various chemicals, radiation or hormones. Transmission from one species to another can also cause a

subgroup includes the viruses which cause the brain disease *scrapie* (vlsna virus) in sheep and goats, and the viruses which cause the brain diseases *Kuru* and *Cruetzfeld-Jacob Disease* (CJD) in humans.

According to Nobel Prize winner D. Carlton Gajdusek, these viruses are so similar that they *must be different strains of the same virus*. The 1986 Annual Report of the British Medical Research Council also supports this statement.

The evidence points to HIV being formed by a mutation which involved STLV-III and a lentivirus. Such a mutation *could not happen under natural circumstances* because of the completely different host ranges of the viruses involved.

Creation of AIDS?

Much, but not all, of the research into the viruses of *Kuru* and *CJD* has been carried out in the laboratories of the National Institutes of Health at Bethesda, Maryland, USA, under the direction of D. Carlton

inject animals with viruses about which they knew virtually nothing.

Even though there are still many unknown monkey viruses, biologists are even now injecting HIV, the human AIDS virus, into these animals.

Escape from the Lab

If the AIDS virus was laboratory-created, it would have been all too easy for it to escape into the local population via laboratory workers; such incidents are well documented.

For example, Fort Detrick, the top security US Army Biological Warfare Establishment in Maryland, is considered to be the most secure laboratory in the world. Yet over a 25 year period there has been, on average, an accident involving serious infection (including three deaths) every *three or four weeks*.

In 1981 several litres of deadly *chikungunya* virus disappeared from Fort Detrick - "a disease of explosive potential as either a biological warfare agent or a natural disease

AIDS Created in Experiments?

virus to mutate. A spontaneous or deliberate mutation can also cause a virus to cross the species barrier to a new host.

Spontaneous mutation occurs naturally; this gives rise to epidemics of flu which periodically sweep the world. Mutation can involve a swap of genes between two or more different types of normally mild flu viruses to produce a single very dangerous one.

AIDS' Ancestors

Under laboratory conditions many viruses have been studied and deliberately made to mutate and change host range.

It is equally possible for such a mutation to occur accidentally in a laboratory (see *NEXUS* issue 1), as such a disaster is encouraged by the nature of animal experimentation.

To date, HIV is the most complex of a group known as *retroviruses*. Whereas most of these contain only four genes, HIV also has genes which are only found in a small subgroup of *retroviruses* called *lentiviruses*. This

Gajdusek. His work involved injecting these viruses, and others, into the brains and bloodstreams of many species of monkey, including the African Green.

By 1976, over 300 monkeys and apes of at least 19 species had been used. The viruses were also grown in cultures of cells from African green monkeys and during this experiment were deliberately mixed with many other forms of virus. It is very likely that mutations occurred and that STLV-III combined with a lentivirus to produce HIV.

The workers involved were totally ignorant of the presence of STLV-III, although it is now known that it existed in U.S. lab monkeys as long as twenty years ago. All over the USA during the 1960s and 1970s, experimenters were deliberately transmitting simian AIDS from animal to animal, species to species, laboratory to laboratory, watching it develop in severity and speed of action.

No attempt was made to contain the viruses. Biologists continued to

threat", Pentagon documents report.

Accidents are even more likely to occur under civilian conditions and increase dramatically when staff are unaware of the hazards. Similar work with viruses is carried out in Britain, where many laboratories use primates. It's quite possible that another virus similar to HIV will soon be 'discovered'.

This is why vivisection laboratories are regarded by Animal Welfare groups as biological time-bombs waiting to go off, presenting a massive health threat to their immediate population and the entire world ☹

This information is a very brief summary of Biohazard, findings gleaned by the British National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS), from over a thousand research papers dating back to the 1930's. For more information, including full scientific references, send an appropriately stamped self-addressed envelope to:

*NAVS, 51 Harley Street,
London W1, England*

The Gemstone File PART 3

An episodic expose of American politics (and therefore our own), The Gemstone File purports to be a 'true history' of modern events. Written by the inventor of the original synthetic ruby manufacturing process, Bruce Roberts, it may ring true in many respects but comes with no guarantees. In this issue we include other relevant information on the John F. Kennedy assassination obtained under U.S. Freedom of Information legislation. For further information see issues 1 & 2.

November 22nd 1963:

After JFK's death, Onassis quickly established control over Lyndon Johnson by fear. On the trip back to Washington, Johnson was warned by radio, relayed from an Air Force base: "There was no conspiracy. Oswald was a lone nut assassin. Get it, Lyndon? Otherwise Air Force One might have an unfortunate accident on the flight back to Washington."

Onassis filled all important government posts with his own men. All government agencies became means to accomplish an end: rifle the American Treasury, steal as much as possible, keep the people confused and disorganised and leaderless, pursue world domination. JFK's original "Group of 40" was turned over to Rockefeller and his man Kissinger, so that they could more effectively exploit South America. (Onassis was one of the first to console Jackie when she got back from Dallas with JFK's body).

Silva, a San Francisco private detective hired by Angelina Alioto to get the goods on philandering Joe, followed Joe Alioto to Vacavilla to the Nut Tree Restaurant, where he held a private meeting with other Mafioso to arrange details of the JFK assassination payoff to Frattiano.

November 23rd 1963: Oswald's Testimony

In the basement of the Dallas Police Station, Lee Harvey Oswald told a local CBS filmcrew (who captured the statement for posterity);

"I positively know nothing about this situation here. I would like to have legal representation...Well, I was questioned by a judge. However, I protested at that time that I was not allowed legal representation during that very short and sweet hearing. I really don't know what this situation is about. Nobody has told me anything, except that I'm accused of murdering a policeman. I know nothing more than that. I do request someone to come forward to give me legal assistance."

A reporter asked Oswald, "Did you kill the President?"

"No," he answered, "I have not been charged with that. In fact, nobody has said that to me yet. The first thing I heard about it was when the newspaper reporters in the hall asked me that question."

Ten years later, a Psychological Stress Evaluator (PSE) was used by 'former' CIA agent George O'Toole to test Oswald's statements on tape. The PSE analysis showed that Oswald was more worried about his lack of a lawyer than about any of the charges against him.

PSE analysts have concluded that he believed he was innocent of all charges.

However, in Volume 24, Exhibit 2038 of the Warren Commission Report (the official 'investigation' of the John F. Kennedy assassination), the following may be found:



"Bob Mulholland, NBC News, Chicago, talked in Dallas to one Ferrie... Ferrie said that Oswald had been under hypnosis from a man doing a mind-reading act at (Jack) Ruby's 'Carousel'...". Jack Ruby, who owned the Mafia-linked Carousel Club, an old friend of Sam Giancana's, killed Oswald

in police custody; David Ferrie (CIA operative and hypnotist, under whom Oswald had served in a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) group in 1956) died while under independent JFK murder investigation by New Orleans D.A. Jim Garrison. Testimony before the Commission shows that Ferrie and Oswald had discussed an assassination attempt in which diversionary tactics were to be used, in Ferrie's apartment in the summer of 1963.

Perry Russo told a grand jury (and, under sodium pentothal, Jim Garrison) that Ferrie had said "there would have to be a minimum of three people involved. Two of the persons would shoot diversionary shots and the third ... shoot the 'good' shot." Ferrie said *one would have to be a scapegoat who would give the other two time to escape*

Ferrie confided to one of his CAP cadets that he was training five-member small-weapons units in "guerrilla warfare tactics under the auspices of the US Marines for action in Cuba." Ferrie worked for W. Guy Bannister, right wing frontman, who also employed Oswald to infiltrate left wing pro-Castro groups.

The day before he died, Ferrie was subpoenaed by Jim Garrison. That evening he told George Lardner of the *Washington Post*: "A President is no better than anyone else... If I were killed, I'd expect my death to be investigated just as thoroughly."

Forensic pathologists concluded he may have been killed by a blow to the base of the skull some time during the next seven hours; he was found in bed with a sheet pulled over his face. The suicide note was left on the dining room table.

Also November 23rd:

Dallas attorney Carroll Jarnagin writes a letter to J. Edgar Hoover reporting a meeting he had overheard on October 4th between Ruby and Oswald - who had arrived from Mexico City the previous night.

From a booth in Ruby's *Carousel Club*, Jarnagin heard Oswald say he had just arrived from New Orleans needing money. "You'll get the money when the job is done," Ruby said, adding that if there was a slip-up, "they" would want all their money back. Ruby said the job was to shoot Governor Connally (who rode with JFK in Dallas), because he wouldn't open Texas to the rackets.

"The boys in Chicago have no place to go, no place to really operate," said Ruby. "They've clamped down the lid in Chicago; Cuba is closed." When Oswald argued that killing Connally would cause trouble, Ruby replied;

"Not really, they'll think some crackpot or Communist did it, and it will be written off as an unsolved crime."

CIA Lies to Warren Commission

The CIA concealed evidence from the Warren Commission, some released in 1976 under FOI. A memo quoting a CIA report on Oswald written three days after the Kennedy assassination revealed that the CIA had discussed approaching Oswald in the early 1960s. The same document shows that Allen Dulles (ex-CIA Director) had secretly coached the Agency on how it should deny having any connection with Oswald. He also recommended that CIA Director Richard Helms should lie under oath about the CIA having any material in its files suggesting a relationship with Oswald.

In sworn testimony to the Warren Commission, Helms subsequently testified that the Agency had "never even con-

templated" making contact with Oswald prior to the assassination. Further FOI releases show that the CIA did make contact with him.

June 7, 1964:

Jack Ruby was questioned in jail in Dallas, Texas, by Earl Warren and Gerald Ford. Ruby repeatedly asked for a lie-detector test or sodium pentothal to prove his honesty before the Warren Commission. He asked that the Sheriff and law enforcement personnel leave the room and said to Justice Warren, "I would like to see you in private." Warren replied, "You may do that when you finish your story. You may tell me that phase of it." Ruby said, "Gentlemen, my life is in danger here. Not with my guilty plea of execution..."

Jack Ruby's Testimony

After attempting in vain to gain access to Justice Warren alone, he continued: "I wish that our beloved President, Lyndon Johnson, would have delved deeper into the situation, hear me, not to accept just circumstantial facts about my guilt or innocence, and would have questioned to find out the truth about me before he relinquished certain powers to these certain people... *Consequently, a whole new form of government is going to take over our country, and I know I won't live to see you another time. Do I sound sort of screwy in telling you these things?"*

"No," Warren answered, "I think that is what you believe or you wouldn't tell it under oath."

"But it is a very serious situation," said Ruby. "I guess it is too late to stop it, isn't it? Now maybe something can be saved. It may not be too late, whatever happens, if our President, Lyndon Johnson, knew the truth from me... But if I am eliminated, there won't be any way of knowing."

"Right now, when I leave your presence now, I am the only one that can bring out the truth to our President ... but he has been told, I am certain, that I was part of a plot to assassinate the President. I know your hands are tied; you are helpless... But in all fairness to everyone, maybe all I want to do is beg that if they found out I was telling the truth, maybe they can succeed in what their motives are, but maybe my people won't be tortured and mutilated..."

An aide in the room asked, "Who do you think is going to eliminate you, Jack?"

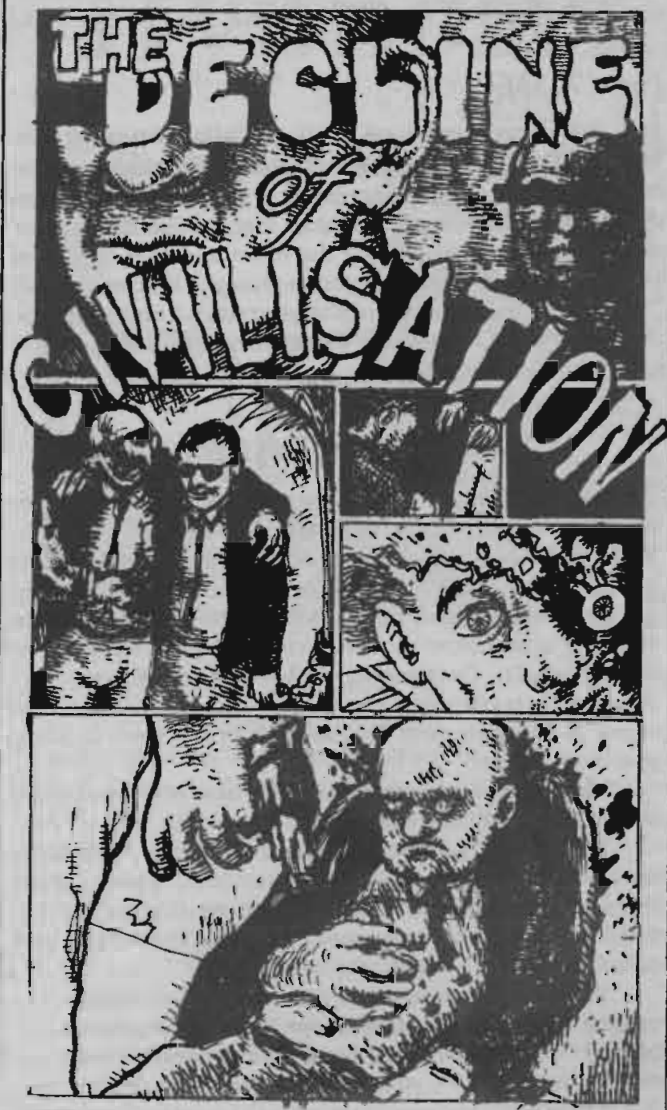
"I have been used for a purpose, and there will be a certain tragic occurrence happening if you don't take my testimony and somehow vindicate me so my people don't suffer because of what I have done..." Ruby's subsequent polygraph test proved inconclusive due to high stress levels.

1965:

Dorothy Kilgallen, syndicated columnist, gained the only major interview with Ruby in his Dallas cell. She told friends that Ruby's evidence would "blow the JFK case sky high." A few days later she died of a massive barbiturate and alcohol overdose. Her apartment had been ransacked and her Ruby transcripts were missing.

Early 1967:

Jack Ruby, claiming he is being poisoned in jail, is diagnosed as having cancer. However, he dies a few weeks later, not of cancer, but a 'stroke' similar to that which killed David Ferrie.



1967:

Onassis had always enjoyed the fast piles of money to be made through gambling (in Monaco in the 1950s and in Cuba under Battista). Onassis took over Las Vegas in 1967 via the "Howard Hughes" cover. US Government officials explained it was all right because "at least Hughes isn't the Mafia" (ha ha).

Note: L. Wayne Rector had been hired by Hughes in 1955 by the Carl Byoir agency (Hughes' Los Angeles PR firm) to act as Hughes' double. In 1957, when Onassis kidnapped Hughes, Rector continued to act as his stand-in. Rector was the Hughes surrogate in Las Vegas. Robert Maheu actually ran the show, taking orders from Onassis. The six "Nursemaids", called the "Mormon Mafia", kept Rector sealed off from prying eyes.

June 17th 1968: RFK Assassinated

Bobby Kennedy knew immediately who had killed his brother. He wrote about it in his unpublished book "*The Enemy Within*" - when he foolishly tried to run for President, Onassis had him killed using a sophisticated new technique:

he hypnotised Sirhan Sirhan who shot from the front, while a 'security guard' (from Lockheed Aircraft), Thane Cesar, shot from the rear 2 or 3 inches away from Bobby's head. Sirhan's shots all missed, Cesar's couldn't possibly miss.

Evelle Younger, then the Los Angeles DA, covered it all up, including the squawks of LA Coroner Thomas Noguchi (Marylin Monroe's "*Coroner to the Stars*"). Younger was later rewarded with the post of California Attorney General. His son, Eric Younger, got a second-generation Mafia reward: a Judge-ship at age 30. (See Ted Charach, LA author & director, "*The Second Gun*", a documentary film on the RFK murder, bought and suppressed by Mafia Warner Brothers, for more details).

After Bobby's death Teddy knew who did it. In fear for his life he went to Onassis and swore eternal obedience. In return Onassis granted him his life and said he could be President too, just like his big brother, if he would just behave himself and follow orders.

September 16th 1968:

There was a hit and run accident on Bruce Roberts' car, parked in front of the Russian Consulate in San Francisco - who routinely take pictures of everything that goes on in front of the Consulate. Their photos showed the licence plate of the hit-and-run car, UKT 264, on a Blue Cadillac belonging to Mia Angela Alioto, [San Francisco Mayor] Joe's daughter, being driven by Tom Alioto, Joe's son - who's driving licence had been revoked. His license and the car's were both fraudulent.

To cover up the hit and run circumstances, San Francisco MPs from the Presidio quickly staged a few more hit and runs on the same corner - all duly filmed by the Russians. Kathryn Hollister, the Alioto family nurse, was 'persuaded' to take the rap for the hit and run. Roberts threatened to spill the whole story - in court - with photos.

Next evening, Brading & Frattiano showed up in the Black Magic Bar - Brading wearing his X-marked hat from Dallas - to see whether Roberts recognised it, how much he knew, etc. A San Francisco MP from the Presidio piped up from the end of the bar, "I heard they let everyone with an X-marked hatband through the police lines at Dallas".

The coverup support from Alioto in the hit and run was complete.

Mafia Joe Alioto had Presidential ambitions, shored up by his participation in the Dallas payoff. Everyone who helped kill JFK got a piece of the US pie, but J. Edgar Hoover, FBI head, blew his cover by releasing some of the raw FBI files on Alioto at the Democratic National Convention.

Joe was out of the running for Vice President and Hubert Humphrey had to settle for Muskie. Humphrey planned to come to San Francisco for a final pre-election rally sparked by Joe Alioto. Roberts threatened to blow the hit and run story plus its Mafia ramifications open if Humphrey came to S.F.. Humphrey didn't come. Humphrey lost San Francisco, California and the election.

October 1968:

Jackie Kennedy was now 'free' to marry Onassis. An old Mafia rule: if someone welshes on a deal, kill him and take his gun and his girl - in this case, the Pentagon and Jackie. ☹

END OF PART 3

by Bruce Roberts

Next Issue:

The Self-Assassination of Teddy Kennedy

Chernobyl Blunder Report

According to a Soviet report to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Chernobyl disaster (meltdown) was due to human error and basic difficulties in controlling nuclear fission, not USSR reactor design problems.

Operators at the 1,000-megawatt *Chernobyl-4* plant manually disconnected emergency core cooling system to quickly test a new safety procedure - possibly because the next day was a national holiday.

The result was an explosion and fire which spread radiation around the world.

During their experiment, the operators also removed most of the control rods (which 'dampen' nuclear reactions) from the core, leaving only six or eight in place instead of the regulation thirty. By the time somebody pressed the 'Scram' button to re-insert them, the reactor core had already been damaged and they would no longer fit.

Twenty seconds later the first explosion destroyed the building.

Radioactive Food

Radiation spread much further than central Europe; fallout-contaminated rain affected many of Turkey's crops, including hazelnuts. Up to 60% of their last hazelnut crop is thought to be above radiation export limits - and Turkey exports hazelnuts to Australia, along with other agricultural products (such as the 360 bags of radioactive herbs containing dangerous levels of radioactive caesium, barely intercepted before reaching the Australian public).

Sellout Sale

Many countries are attempting to sell goods *known to be contaminated* to the Third World. Earlier this year, 3,000 tonnes of radioactive West German milk powder was stopped in Bremen and Cologne railway yards *en route* to Egypt.

Some radioactive caesium isotopes have a half-life of about thirty years and become relatively safe only after centuries.

Radiation counters, whose prices soared immediately after Chernobyl, are now falling in cost.

Slightly Fewer Chernobyls

Over 400 nuclear reactor plants produced electricity worldwide in 1987; but due to the Chernobyl disaster, the number planned is slowly declining.

The US Atomic Industrial Forum said the number of reactors planned outside the US dropped slightly to 165 in 1986, compared to 178 in 1985. New plants will decline to five a year, the US Nuclear Information and Research Service predicts. By the next millennium many of these should go out of commission.



Nearly Blew It

Figures compiled from public records show that the US had 'only' 2,957 nuclear incidents in 1986, including 678 cases where a nuclear reactor had to be shut down in an emergency.

This compares favourably with 1985, when 2,997 incidents were recorded, revealed an American anti-nuclear group called *Public Citizen*.

Lead Coffins in Brazil

At least 243 people were contaminated with radioactive Caesium 137 last September in a disaster described by the World Health Organisation as the West's worst radiation accident.

In the city of Goiania, 200 km southwest of Brasilia, three doctors who abandoned an x-ray machine full of the lethal isotope have been committed for trial after a lead-sealed container found in the machine by scavengers was broken open by a junkyard owner who bought it for scrap.

He removed the glowing powder, which was used as body-paint, ingested, carried in pockets and flushed down toilets by friends and neighbours. Many victims have 'worst-case' direct radiation burns and "severe lesions" as a result - Rio's Naval Hospital has prepared 5cm thick lead-walled coffins for four dying patients and thirty families have been removed from the area.

The doctors face four to twelve years in jail if convicted.

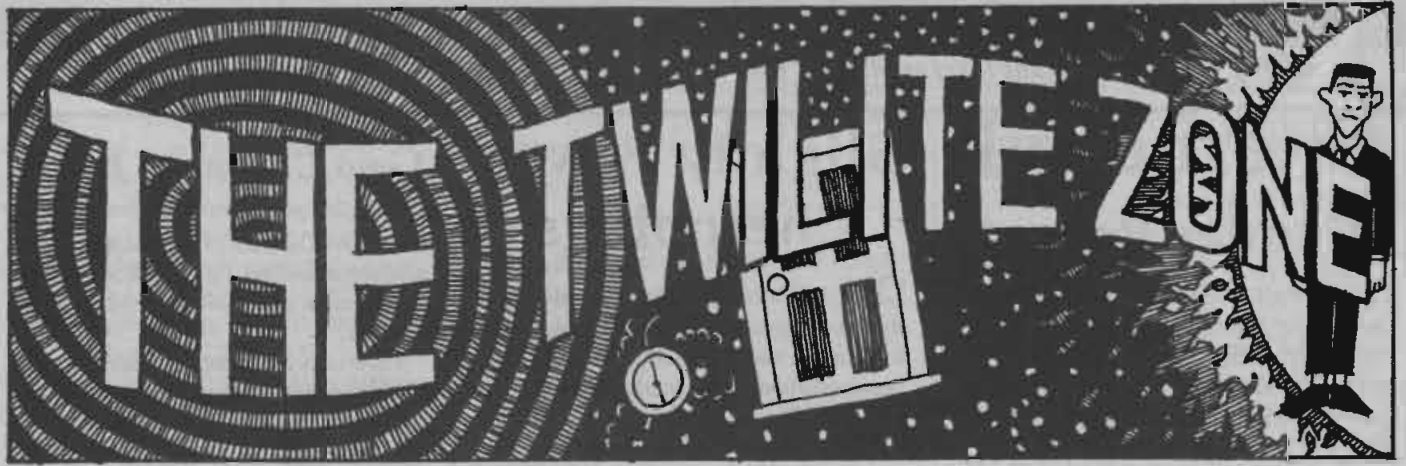
'Leaks'

The US Energy Department has allowed countries developing nuclear weapons to gain sensitive nuclear technology because of lax security, according to a congressional report.

"The Energy Department has been routinely transferring sensitive technology to other nations, which would help them in manufacturing a nuclear bomb," said Democrat Senator William Proxmire, who requested the investigation.

"The nations that have been able to cash in on the Department of Energy's lax security procedures include the ones that have given the US some of its biggest proliferation headaches - the People's Republic of China, India, Iraq and Pakistan."

The General Accounting Office probe has revealed that "countries that pose a proliferation or security risk routinely obtain reprocessing information" published by the Energy Department. This information, essential to the separation of plutonium for nuclear warheads, includes 258 reports and articles on reprocessing that the Department compiled and released in 1984 and 1985.



Unlock the door of your imagination and step into twisted reality. These stories are provided by 'real' news agencies, and most probably happened - but judge for yourself.

The Birds 1

A 29-year-old fisherman from Reading, England, suffered brain damage and was critically ill on a life support machine after being attacked by a swan. The bird also attacked a rescue nurse and fireman.

Closer to home, a man was walking his pet chihuahua near Port Hacking in Sydney when a pelican swooped down and plucked it from the ground. The owner received such a fright that he dropped the lead and the pelican flew off, with only the dog's lead visible from its beak.

Fish Eats Dog

A fisherman's dog was swallowed by a giant pike while swimming across a river in northern Siberia to join its master.

The fisherman cast his net a few moments later and caught the six-foot long fish, which had the dog's tail protruding from its jaws. When he cut the fish open, the dog struggled out, apparently no worse for having been eaten.



Beating the Taxman

An ancient form of tax evasion has been resurrected in China, the country that invented taxation thousands of years ago. *China Legal News* reports a wave of violent attacks on State tax collectors.

In Fujian Province over a hundred tax officers were beaten up in the last 12 months while in Liaoning Province there were 120 attacks between early last year and May this year.

Similar cases have occurred in other provinces. In Nanjing, in Jiangsu Province, when a group of itinerant pedlars was asked to pay taxes, they responded by gathering together hundreds of people and beating up the tax collectors with clubs.

In Shanxi Province, a tax official who inspected a restaurant's books was later beaten up in his office with iron bars, bottles and bricks by the friends of the restaurant owner. The official's assistant was stabbed.

The government held a mass rally to expose the "crimes of the tax evaders", and to propagate the tax regulations.

"Fines are not enough. Sterner punishment is necessary for those who try to evade paying taxes," the *China Legal News* said, blaming the assaults on "lawless people obsessed with money".

Prehistoric Rock Eaters

A Soviet academic has come up with a new theory to explain why prehistoric mammals died out. Professor Vasil Bogatov told *Soviet Weekly* that mammals like the mammoth, the woolly rhino and the cave bear died out, not from lack of food, but from lack of rocks. Professor Bogatov believes the soft-footed mammals ate stones to get essential minerals. When the ice sheets spread in the late Pleistocene era, the mammals were unable to prise the stones out of the frozen ground. They died from mineral deficiency, while their hard-hoofed companions - like deers and horses - managed to survive by digging the stones out.

Allah's Revenge

Two giant porcupines roamed a city street in Khoramabad in Western Iran, terrorising poultry and locals.

The porcupines barged into traffic, killing chickens they speared on their 40cm spines. Residents stoned them to death.

Famous Last Words

Nell Cassady, whose famous adventures are chronicled in Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, was counting the ties on a railway line in Mexico when he was run over by a train. His last words were "64,928".

Ken Kesey, who related the story in the newly released *Demon Box* believes doggedly in the values of LSD, although he's wary of drugs such as heroin and cocaine. "It gives you more compassion," he said in Adelaide of LSD recently, adding that the trouble with Ronald Reagan was that he didn't use enough pot.



The Birds 2

A plumber from Umina on the NSW central coast took a step backwards when he saw a kookaburra drop something from on high. But it was not what he anticipated, but in fact an aggressive male funnel-web spider landing half a metre in front of him. He now has the spider safely in a pickle jar.

Buddhism Goes Commercial

The Japanese have developed a useful item for American consumption - sound-activated household shrines. By clapping your hands for example, little doors open in the miniature shrine revealing a miniature altar, which lights up and plays a recorded prayer. So far these technoshrines come only in Shinto and Buddhist models, but the patent does not exclude commercial religious practices more familiar to the American market.

Lovers Leap

A male kangaroo at a zoo near Milan in Italy committed suicide after his companion died. She broke one of her legs in a fall and zoo officials destroyed her. The joey she was carrying in her pouch also died in the fall.

The male, unable to cope with her death, went into a severe depression and joined her by leaping off the same wall the following day.

Exploding Money

A bank robber in Oakland, California, suffered second and third degree burns to his genitals when the bundle of cash he stole exploded in his trousers. The booby trap containing tear gas and a brightly coloured dye was detonated by microwave from the bank.

Police just laughed when they caught him, although he was in excruciating pain.

Daniel Cenelaira, 27, was denied medical treatment, and is suing the bank for \$2 million.



Rapist Foiled

A London woman avoided being raped by a man holding a knife to her throat while he struggled for 15 minutes trying to put on a condom. The man fled when he failed to get it on, presumably because he was afraid of catching AIDS.

Throwing Bull

A New Zealand farmer subdued an enraged bull by jamming his fingers up its nose. Last year Joe Kauika, 35, from the town of Taihape on Central North Island, took on the 300 kg animal as it gored his 69-year-old workmate.

Government House said he shoved his fingers in its flaring nostrils, grabbed one of its horns and threw it on its back even though it was three times his weight. He has won a bravery award from the Queen.

Real Estate One, Ground Zero

Bizarre contingency plans for managing the period after a nuclear attack have emerged in the United States and Great Britain. In Washington DC, the Federal Emergency Management Association ("FEMA") has a \$US1.5 billion proposal for state and local officials to rush to specially built shelters carrying land records so that nuclear war survivors can "retain and demonstrate ownership" of property that is not destroyed.

The plan has also placed a new emphasis on volunteers and self-help by ordinary citizens who are expected to "assume greater responsibility for their survival protection".

For over 10 years the British Home Office has had plans



for government officials to take control over who will live or die and would even supervise survivor's lovemaking. Millions of contraceptives would be allocated and a total ban on births is envisaged for a considerable time after a nuclear attack because of the likelihood of birth defects.

Psychologists have emphasized the need to enforce strict control of repopulating Britain because they say sexual activity would increase as people were brought together, both physically and emotionally, in the wake of such an emergency.

Bawa's Stand for Peace

Bawa Amrutanandgiri, a 20-year-old from Sabarmati village in Gujrat, India, has remained standing in the one spot since November last year as "penance" for world turmoil. His feet have become swollen and callused. He sleeps upright and occasionally leans forward onto a padded swing which hangs from a tree.

Mark of the Beast

Professor Reto Scholl has suggested in a Swiss newsletter that males who test positive to the AIDS virus should be tattooed on their penises. He said the mark would be visible only if sex took place and couldn't lead to a person being ostracised.

Chooks In Space

Soviet scientists have designed incubators for hatching chicks in spacecraft so cosmonauts can eat roast chicken in flight.

Each incubator has two chambers. In the first, eggs are placed for 20 days in an artificial gravitational field and a mechanism imitates the movements of a mother hen, constantly changing the eggs' position.

They are then transferred to the second chamber for hatching, where they grow up, free floating and weightless.

The Soviet news agency, Tass, said: "More than 200 chickens were hatched into adult hens. All of them proved very tasty."

But were they free-range?

So Long, & Thanks For All the Fuel

When Doug Youngs attempted to start his 1946 vintage restored aircraft in a hayfield 80 km from Syracuse in New York State, he forgot he had left the throttle open. The plane took off without him.

He clung on desperately to the tail for 50 metres as the plane picked up speed but he let go when the plane lifted off the ground. It banked in widening circles, making a full rotation of the field and disappeared into the distance. The 1946 Hornica Champ had enough fuel to keep flying for an hour and was last seen buzzing along at an altitude of 900 metres.



Soy Source

by John Dawnes

Available Allen & Unwin P.O. Box
764, Nth Sydney - \$9.95

At last! A handy little book that explains soy beans and the many soyfoods extracted from them - such as *Tempeh*, *Shoyu*, *Miso*, *Yuba* and many more. The book describes in full, how to prepare and use these nutritious foods and the recipes are delightful and varied. A great opportunity to become familiar with the versatile soybean and learn to incorporate it into your diet in a number of ways.

Soy Source disproves the myth that soybeans are boring or difficult to prepare and shows how this amazing source of protein can be a tempting alternative.



Riding the Ox Home

by Willard Johnson

Available Harper & Row/Collins -
\$22.95

This book is an history of meditation from shamanism to science. A unique historical survey, it covers the origins of meditative states in prehistoric cultures and tribal ritual through the development of Eastern meditation and disciplines, including Hindu and Buddhist.

A fascinating book containing a wealth of historical information, it points the way to a clear path of self-understanding and self-fulfilment. Beautifully illustrated with Japanese scrolls, *Riding the Ox Home* is a valuable historical record and resource for shamanism and meditation.

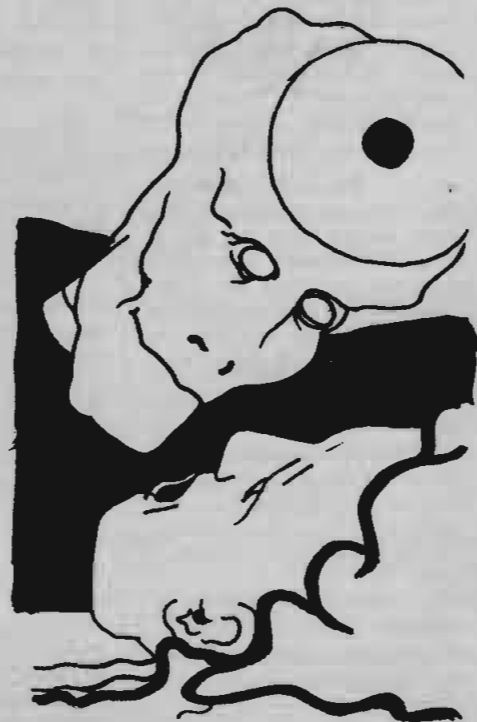
Polarity Therapy

by Alan Siegel N.D.

Available Harper & Row/Collins

Polarity Therapy is the science of stimulating and balancing the body's life energy. We all have the ability to heal dis-ease as well as to create it with our own intrinsic energy. This book is a practical guide to releasing blocked energy flows, through polarity yoga balancing. It incorporates polarity yoga and shows ways to develop positive attitudes and thoughts. *Polarity Therapy* is densely illustrated and all instructions are clearly readable, enabling you to be your own therapist using the book as a guide.

Illuminating the nature of 'laying on hands', this is an interesting addition to the many new therapies available. *Polarity Therapy* illustrates an imaginative healing perspective on life and the world.



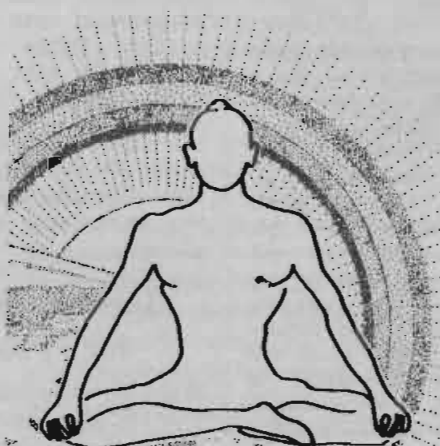
Mal(e) Practice

*How Doctors Manipulate
Women*

by Robert S. Mendelsohn M.D.
Available from International Health
Promotions, P.O. Box 155, Lane Cove
2066 - \$19.95

A practising doctor for 25 years, Dr. Mendelsohn sets out to totally expose many institutional medical myths by baring the true facts about the overuse of surgery, x-rays, pills and many of the condescending 'practices' of modern medicine. This book arms women with the true inside story on the need for routine check-ups which all women are supposed to undergo throughout their adult lives - and how to assess an inner need to say 'no'. It gives a comprehensive list of fifty commonly prescribed pills that all women should avoid, listing side effects and names of the drugs.

Written with a mixture of sarcasm and humour, *Mal(e) Practice* communicates a vitally important message to women - the extraordinary level of invasive and unnecessary surgery and medication which is routinely prescribed as a way of medically processing human beings with minimum effort and understanding.



The Art of Survival

A Guide to Yoga Therapy

by Dr M. I. Charote &
Maureen Lockhart

Available: Allen & Unwin,
PO Box 764, North Sydney \$17.95

For a wide range of readers - beginners, teachers, therapists, beginners and health professionals, this book is an anthology of experiences in many areas of Yoga. It contains contributions from authors and healers world-wide on the principles and exercises of Yoga, relaxation, meditation, acupuncture, childbirth, osteopathy and other related healing processes.

The Art of Survival is definitely an excellent tool for therapists; very much a textbook, it is not illustrated.



Change

by John Wood

From Catalytic Reactions,

PO Box 1069 Crows Nest 2065 \$15

Bypassing the intellect and communicating directly with the 'subconscious' mind through animistic imagery, *Change* is not so much a book as a talisman containing no written words. It invokes and evokes a balance of black and white, male and female, left and right; a union of opposites.

Change can be used for meditation over a moon cycle; according to its creator, it can be used to draw your complementary 'other half' to you - on many levels. It has been acclaimed by Guboo Ted Thomas of the Wallaga Lake Aboriginal community as the first book which communicates on deep, 'dreamtime' levels accessible to Aborigines and colonists alike.



Windows of the Mind

by G.M. Glaskin

Available Harper & Row/Collins - \$10.95

Windows of the Mind is a book that explores astral travel and re-discovering previous incarnations. It gives fascinating accounts of peoples "journeys", including the author's own experiences. There are detailed instructions on how to mentally "travel" without losing consciousness of the 'now'. All you need are a couple of close friends and a quiet space and you can journey into the realms of your mind, using the 'Christos Method' of freeing the astral body. This reviewer has personally experienced this method and found that it really works - I didn't expect to appear as a fourteen-year old male in the Fire of London!

For those who are into the concept of past lives, this book is a fascinating and handy tool for those realms.

Healing Music

by Andrew Watson and Nevill Drury

Available Allen & Unwin, Box 764 Nth. Sydney. - \$9.95

Music is finding its place and being recognised as an essential part of Wholistic Healing - treating the whole being. *Healing Music* presents an overview of wholistic Health and explains how music plays a vital role in the healing process. Chapters explain energy levels within us, exercises for creative visualisation and overviews of New Age music in the United States, Britain, Europe and Australasia. There are diagrams showing the chakras and their musical relationships, explanations, bibliography and music checklists. Well-presented and easy to read, this alternative healing book contains great source material.



Winged Serpents Dancing

by Vincent Selleck

Available: Shekinah Foundation, PO Box Thora NSW 2454 - \$5

A 43-page booklet written to explain the 'Harmonic Convergence' which took place in August 1987, *Winged Serpents Dancing* deals with the Aztec and Hopi Indian prophecies and the upcoming *Earth Link '88*. Other topics include humanity's voice in the planetary awakening, sacred sites, rituals and the meaning behind current changes in the world-mind - a companion to Vincent Selleck's *Path of the Dragon*.



The Dowsing & Healing Manual

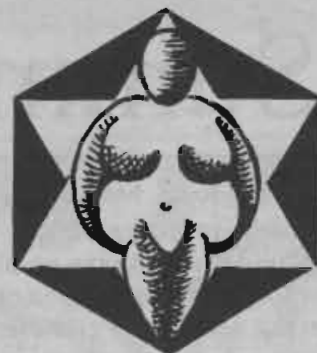
by Alanna Moore

Available: Dowsing News,

PO Box 195, Katoomba 2780 \$13 p.p.

This dowsing manual has much information about the various forms of dowsing. Informative topics covered include radionics, biofeedback, magnets, crystals, orgone devices, the chakras, pendulums, flower essences, colour healing and a great deal more.

The Dowsing and Healing Manual is a self-published book with a 'hand-made' feel - it is presented as a manual, with little use of graphics.



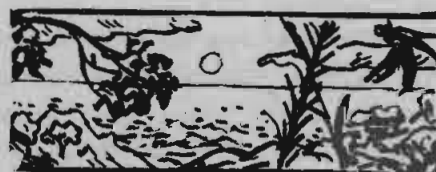
The I Ching of the Goddess

by Barbara G. Walker

Available Harper & Row/Collins - \$12.95

One of America's leading feminists, Barbara Walker again opens your eyes to the myths of history. This time she explores the theme of the creation of the Great Mother and Goddess images of the various world cultures that worshipped Her. She points out the historical occurrences that created many disjointed stories which, in turn, spawned many myths.

All this is explored within the context of the *I Ching*, the ancient Taoist *Book of Changes*. Interpretations of the hexagrams are interesting and follow the ancient Chinese patterns. They are clear to read and interpret and each hexagram has an accompanying black and white plate. There are colour versions of all the hexagrams in a central block within the book. *The I Ching of the Goddess* is a work which would grace the shelves of a mystic or a feminist - a rare combination.



Health from God's Garden

by Maria Treben

From Internation Health Promotions, PO Box 155 Lane Cove 2066 - \$16.95

Another wonderful book by the author of *Health Through God's Pharmacy*, the presentation is clear and contains beautiful colour drawings of the herbs. It starts with a chapter on how to use the book and continues with chapters on preventions and cures and standard herbal recipes.

Ailments are alphabetically listed and a choice of treatments is listed. A large list of diseases and problems are covered in the book, making it an invaluable, up-to-date edition for healer or layperson alike.

Summer Planting Guide

During the long, hot summer it isn't too late to plant some useful vegetation. Always use local and non-hybrid seeds where possible!

The following vegetation can be planted in a hot, temperate Australian climate:

<u>Vegetables</u>	<u>Planting Times</u>		
Beans	September -February	Borage	Spring-Autumn
Beetroot	August-May	Caraway	Spring-Autumn
Broccoli	January-March	Chervil	Spring-Autumn
Brussels Sprout	December-March	Chives	All Year
Cabbage	August-May	Coriander	Spring-Autumn
Carrot	August-May	Dill	All Year
Cauliflower	December-March	Hyssop	Spring-Autumn
Celery	August-May	Marjoram	August-March
Lettuce	All Year	Mint	Spring-Autumn
Mustard & Cress	All Year	Oregano	August-March
Onion	March-July	Parsley	August-March
Pea	February-November	Rosemary	Spring-Autumn
Pumpkin	September-January	Sage	August-March
Radish	All Seasons	Thyme	August-March
Silverbeet	All Year	<u>Others</u>	<u>Planting Times</u>
<u>Herbs</u>	<u>Planting Times</u>	Melons	October-December
Balm (lemon)	Spring-Autumn	Rhubarb	June-November
Basil	Spring-Autumn	Tomato	August-January
		<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Planting Times</u>
		Calendula	August-April
		Carnation	Autumn-Spring
		Lavender	Spring-Autumn
		Marigold	Spring (all year, no frost)
		Snapdragon	All Seasons
		Sweatpea	February-April
		Verbena	Spring-Autumn

Plant Habits

All Plants fall into one of the following groups:

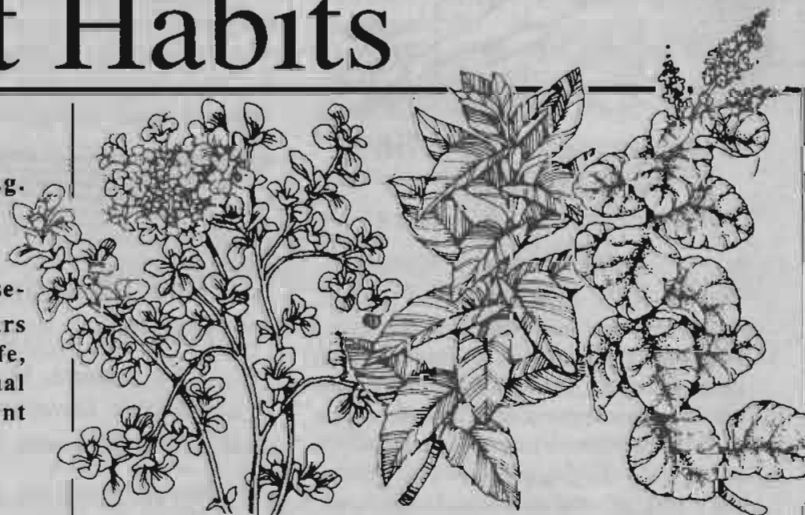
ANNUAL - Matures, flowers and dies each year (e.g. Basil, Tomatoes). Usually grown from seeds.

BIENNIAL - Lives for two years (e.g. Parsley).

PERENNIAL - Survives indefinitely (e.g. Rosemary, Lavender, Sage, Mint, Thyme). Every three years you should root divide perennials. Using a sharp knife, divide the plant from the root into several individual plants, each with a "heel" of roots. If you don't the plant will become "woody" and stop growing.

Plant Propagation

1. **Seeds** - normal reproduction.
2. **Root-Division** - water the plant well. Remove it from its pot or soil, gently prizing the roots apart into separate clumps. Cut downward and separate into several new plants.
3. **Layering** (or *Pegging down* - e.g. Rosemary,



Lavender, Sage etc) - "roughen" the back of a few branches of the plant with a knife (this stimulates the growth of roots). Peg or tie these branches down into the soil, leaving them undisturbed for several months. When roots have developed, sever the connecting branch and replot as a new plant ☺

- Brian Spears

GRAPEVINE Letters

Earth First! Roadshow

Dear Friends:

I have recently returned from my second US Rainforest Roadshow - two months of cruising the States for *Earth First!* We played in 20 cities, about 9,000 miles of freeway, average of 100 in the audience, driving around in an old *International* station wagon with a U-Haul trailer full of t-shirts, videos, snake oil and trinkets off the back. It was great and I'm going back next year for more.

Last December, a couple of friends and I did a short Roadshow with the film "*Give Trees a Chance*" - Tamworth, Armidale, Bellingen, Grafton, Lismore, Murwillumbah. This December we would like to do a longer Roadshow, Sunshine Coast to Melbourne.

At present I am considering starting around Nambour on December 1st and doing shows in Brisbane, Murwillumbah, Byron, Lismore, Nimbin, Grafton, Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Armidale, Tamworth, Kempsey, Newcastle, Katoomba, Sydney and the northern beaches, Canberra, Eden, East Gippsland, Geelong and ending in Melbourne around December 20th.

We will show the film that I co-produced, "*Earth First!*" and will give a presentation about the rainforests and deep ecology. We will be raising money for rainforest conservation and carrying our own projector.

We would like to contact anyone who is interested in helping organise the shows, particularly in East Gippsland or Geelong.

For the Earth
John Seed
Rainforest Information Centre,
P.O. Box 368, Lismore, NSW
2480

Media Monitor

Dear Nexus people,

As a collector of peace movement trivia and contacts... I purchased your *Nexus New Times* Issue 1 and find it a moderately absorbing mixture of the serious and the absurd. I walk pretty much on the serious side of life, but maybe I should be more on the absurd side? I sometimes think so.

The chief vibrational waveform involved in the 'crystal conspiracy', I am sure, is the dollar sign (\$)! This is to say, it is largely a fraud operant upon our never-ending gullibility and our genuine sincere hope for good vibrations and good karma in the world.

Your magazine is serving a useful purpose nonetheless and your readers are free to sieve the seeds from the chaff. K.U.T.G.W. - keep disseminating.

I am compiling an article on how

popular myths or supernatural/extraordinary tales arise, spread and enhance, developing a life all of their own in isolation, full or partial, from reality. This is slow, painstaking work which can only be done by backtracking on information sources to discover the distortions or over-simplifications which are introduced at each stage of the process or link in the chain. In this manner I would like to follow up on two statements in your issue 1:

1.p33 - "...the crystalline components currently permeating global communication networks, computers, satellites and transmission devices are poised for infiltration by crystal consciousness light beings of a higher dimension."

2.p7 - "In a Penrith quarry this year, remains of an Aboriginal settlement were discovered and dated at 47,000 years old; the oldest discovered human settlement on Earth."

Item 1 is an example of the untestable. Item 2 is an example of how a recent discovery can be very quickly enhanced into complete nonsense and falsity.

The item 2 statement is a reference to some broken stones being found at quarry faces - hardly surprising in the light of all the heavy machinery operating. I have the relevant paper clippings, etc and I'm sure no "remains of an Aboriginal settlement" were found. The broken stones just might, on faint possibility, have been broken by Aborigines... Facts are:

1. All broken cobbles/pebbles ('artefacts') have come from the line of scree at the base of the quarry dragline's vertical faces.
2. The stones could have been broken by ancients or (more likely?) by the dragline bucket which excavates these faces.
3. None of the broken stones have been obtained in situ.
- 4: The sediment age is not doubted; based on radiocarbon and thermoluminescence dates. The doubt is whether the gravels contain broken stones before mining takes place.
- 5: Checking has clarified that fire remains (possibly campsites?) recorded at Castlereagh are NOT from the quarry excavations where the broken stones can be collected. Moreover, the fire remains are in higher sediments of much younger age... thus having nothing to do with the "implements" in time or space.

The CBDPG sends best wishes of Peace, Love and Concord to all. May you be well and happy,

John Byrnes, Secretary,
Concord, Burwood & District
Peace Group, PO Box 264,
Summer Hill, NSW 2130

What's a NEXUS?

NEXUS: noun. Bond, link, connection. [Latin *nectere* - to bind]

- Concise Oxford Dictionary

NEXUS: The Size of the House of Representatives

- Australian Constitution

Through our first three issues we at *NEXUS New Times* have tried to define what our 'slant', our 'editorial policy' is. But like reality itself, definitions just can't keep up.

Since we're a new and truly independent (deprived) publication, much of what you're reading is compiled by diligent media monitoring and CONNECTING observations. If you like us please SUBSCRIBE!

An extraordinary deluge of facts besieges everyone in the late-20th century, increasing until everyone's eyes begin to glaze over in sheer overload. One of the major functions of *NEXUS* is to sort through this modern media-ore maze to glean grains of gold from the sand.

We transmit information on self-help healing techniques, including liftout sections and charts; these systems all deserve to be more accessible.

Don't let the 'deluge' discourage you! You can empower yourself by: COMMUNICATING your beliefs and insights to other people WRITING letters to relevant organisations, individuals and politicians THINKING globally but ACTING locally. Remember to READ!

All information found herein is on computer file and source material can be accessed by writing to: *The Akashic Records, c/o NEXUS.*

If you think anything in *NEXUS* is incorrect or biased, please write us a letter and say so - or better still, write an article that presents your point of view (see the submissions notice for details).

If you don't want your letter published in *Grapevine*, please write "Not for Publication" clearly upon it - tell us if you don't want your name published - pen-names are accepted for publication. If you come across any clippings, articles or info you'd like to network send them in.

We'd love to hear from anyone who can help to further extend our distribution, particularly outside New South Wales. Having increased the magazine to 56 pages (without increasing the cover price) we can continue to network just enough of the literal mountain of information that besieges us!

Live Long and Prosper - R.A. & McG.

Southern Festivals

Dear Folks,

I would like to write a couple of paragraphs viz-a-viz the Great Festivals - of which *Halloween* [October 31st] is one. I will try to explain the original significance and present-day observance.

This is a bit more complicated than it sounds because *Halloween*, or as it was called by the Celts *Samhain* (pronounced *Sow-wain* or *Sow'n* or *Sowwen*), is a pivotal festival marking the moment when both Winter and the Celtic New Year commence.

Apart from what one would normally associate with such a seasonal moment, it is also a time when one's dead friends and kin came into the Circle to enjoy the fire and communion. Because of this aspect, and possibly because it is such a very important festival for Pagans, that its meaning has been shanghaied, warped (in the usual manner) and then offered back as something full of terrifying aspects such as ghosts, 'evil spirits', beasties, etc.

But as a rule, Pagans and Old Religionists in general have no fearful feelings about friends and family who've passed away - why, indeed, should we unless we are saturated in guilt?! That's not the end of the story.

When Pagans in the southern hemisphere celebrate the northern festivals they should do so at a time

appropriate to the season of the year. Thus, for those who would celebrate on October 31st, it will be the equivalent of May Eve in the north, the Spring Festival of *Bel-tane*. The 'Bel' of that name originated from *Bel* and *Baal*, an archetype of the 'Great Horned One' (the nature god *Pan*) - hence the May-pole symbolism.

- Kindred Spirits Quarterly
P.O. Box 101
Bega, NSW, 2550

Cost of Enlightenment

Dear Nexus,

Congratulations on a great magazine. I was, however, somewhat concerned about the article and advertisement regarding the visit to Australia of J.Z. Knight and Ramtha the spirit guide who channels through her.

While not wishing to make a judgement on the genuineness of this phenomenon, I do wonder why spiritual enlightenment in this case comes at a cost of \$395 in such a setting as the Hyatt Kingsgate Hotel, Kings Cross.

Surely such teachings should be within the reach of all seekers of truth, not just the wealthy, and should be free or at least available at a nominal cost or donation.

I can't imagine many ordinary people being able to afford this spiritual experience. Keep up the good work with your magazine.

Yours sincerely Tina Sherriff